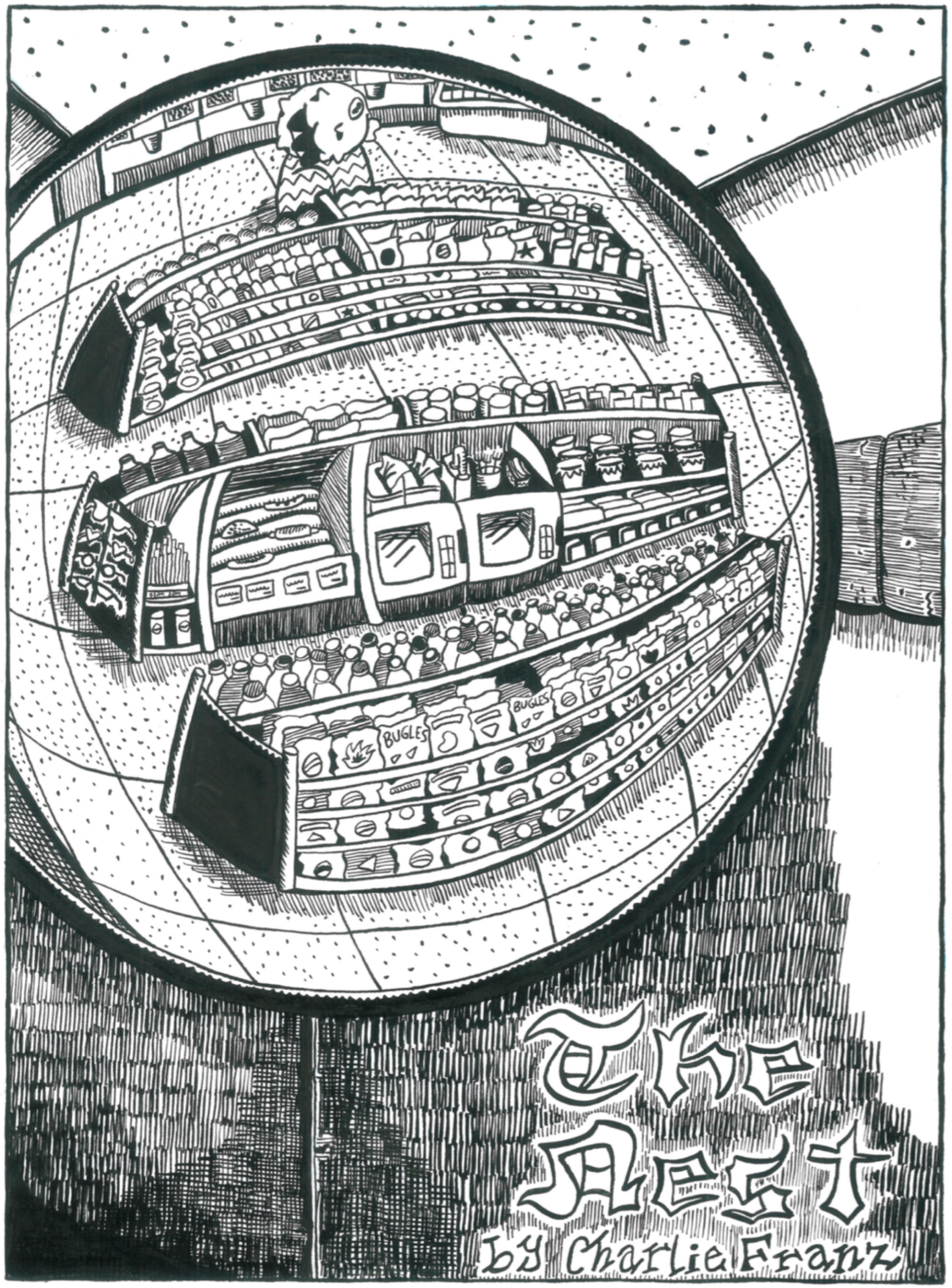
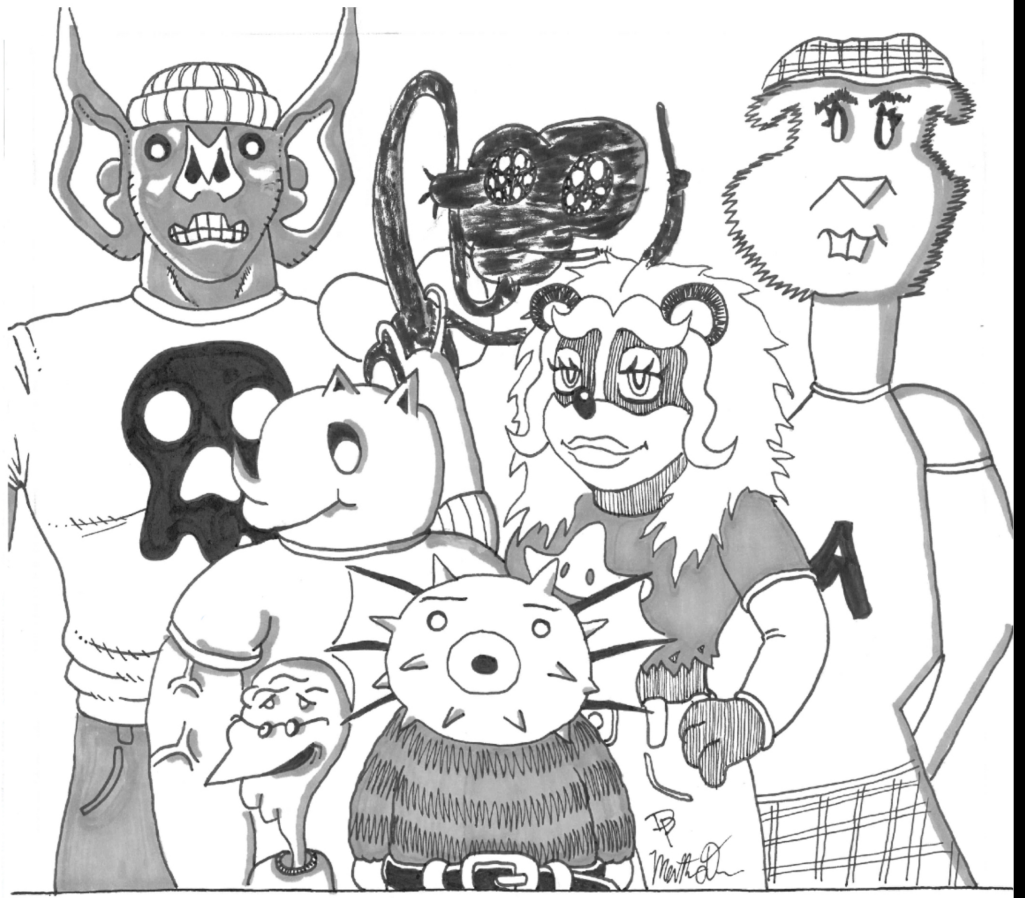
"THE NEST"
(BACK COVER)



The Nest

by Charlie Franz



"THE NEST" WAS DRAWN FROM AUG. 4TH, 2024 (AGE 18) TO AUG. 5TH, 2026 (AGE 20) BY CHARLIE FRANZ. "PUBLISHED" BY **CARTOON FACTORY.**

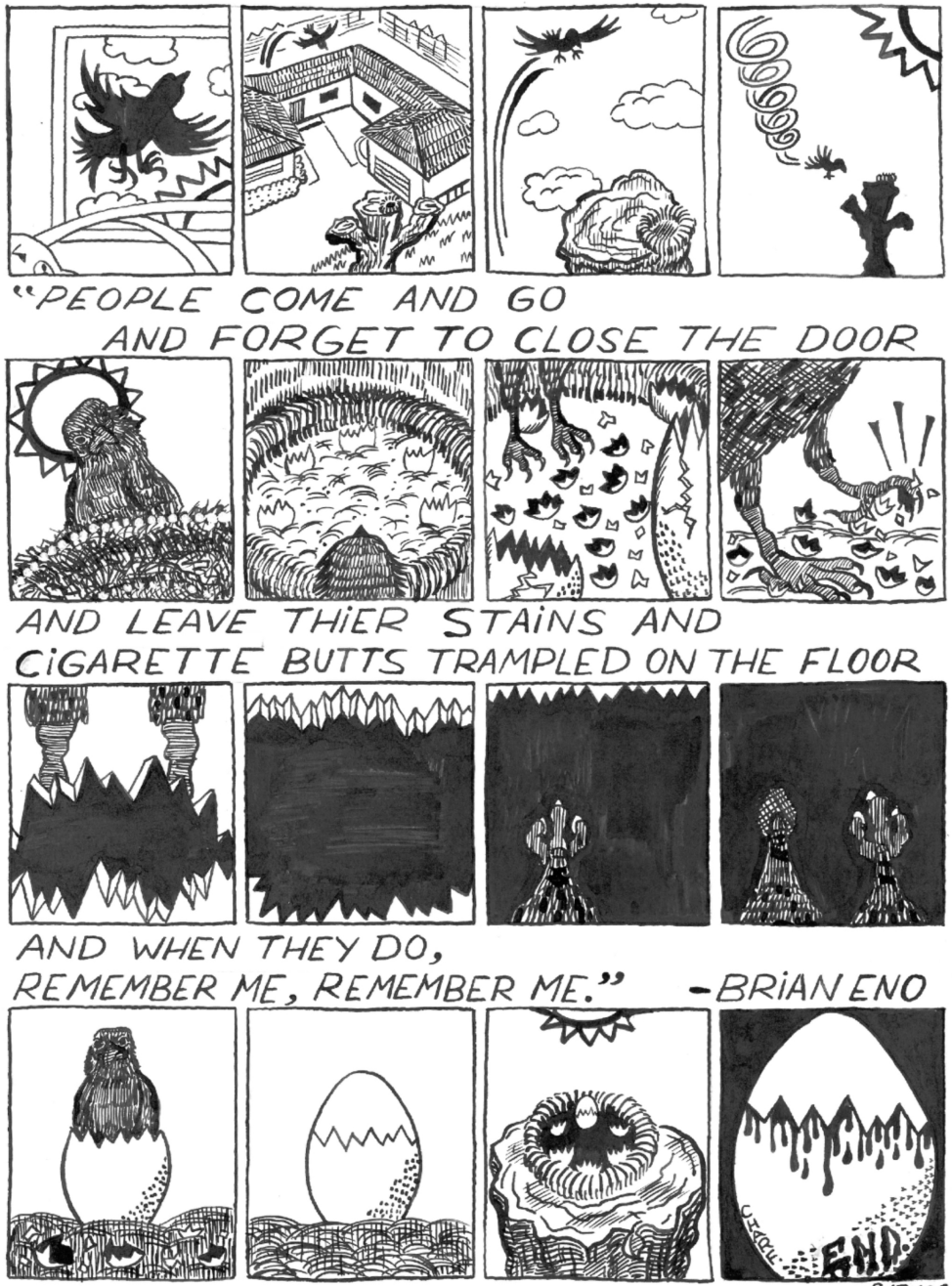
THIS COMIC IS DEDICATED TO FRIENDS NEW AND OLD, I LOVE YOU DEARLY. ♥

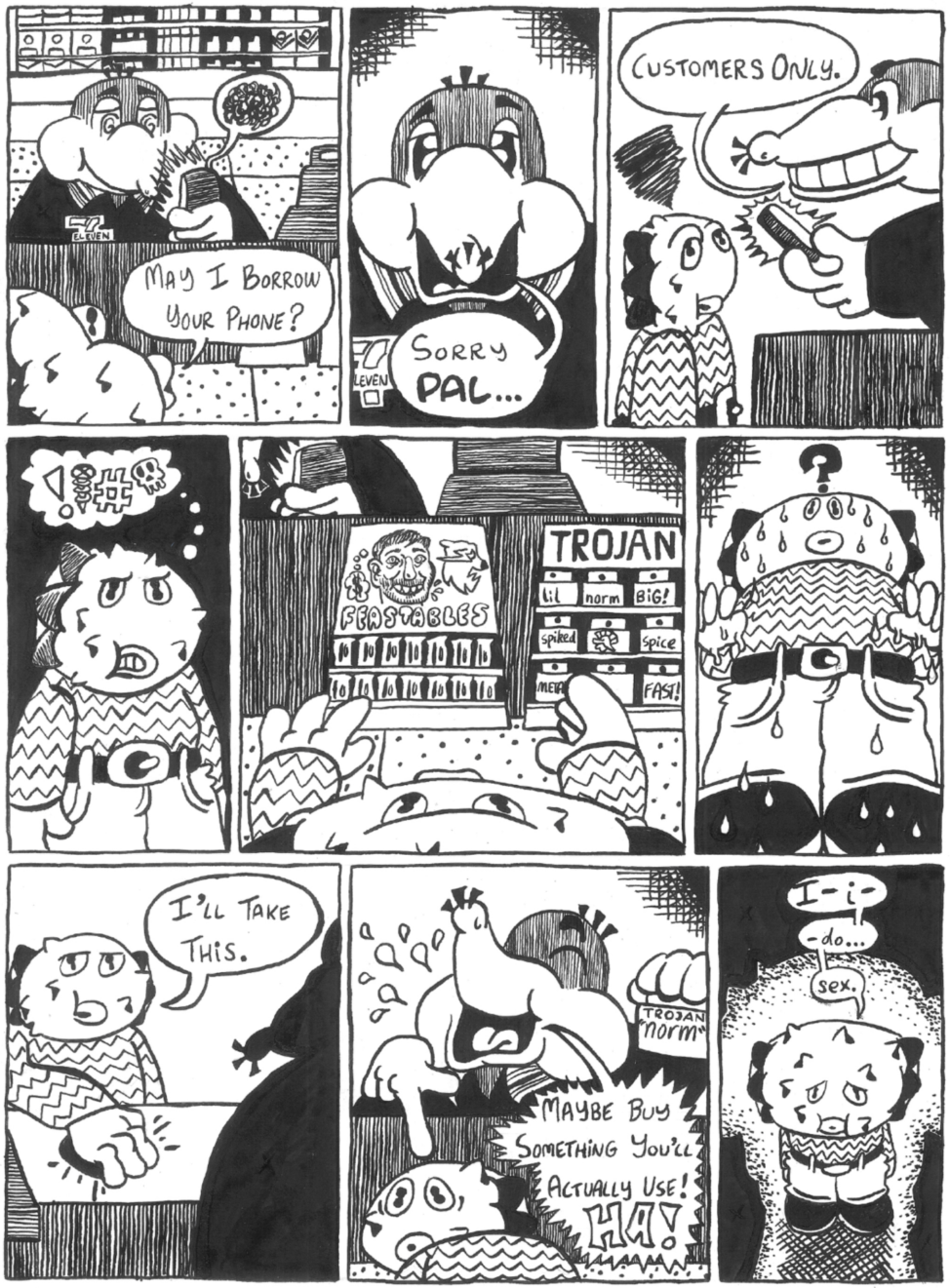
SPECIAL THANKS TO MATTY AND DIEGO FOR DRAWING THE GORGEOUS PIN-UP ABOVE, AIN'T IT GREAT?! THEY MEAN THE WORLD TO ME.

"SOME OF THEM ARE OLD" BY BRIAN ENO, 1973 (LYRICS QUOTED ON PAGE 53, LEFT).

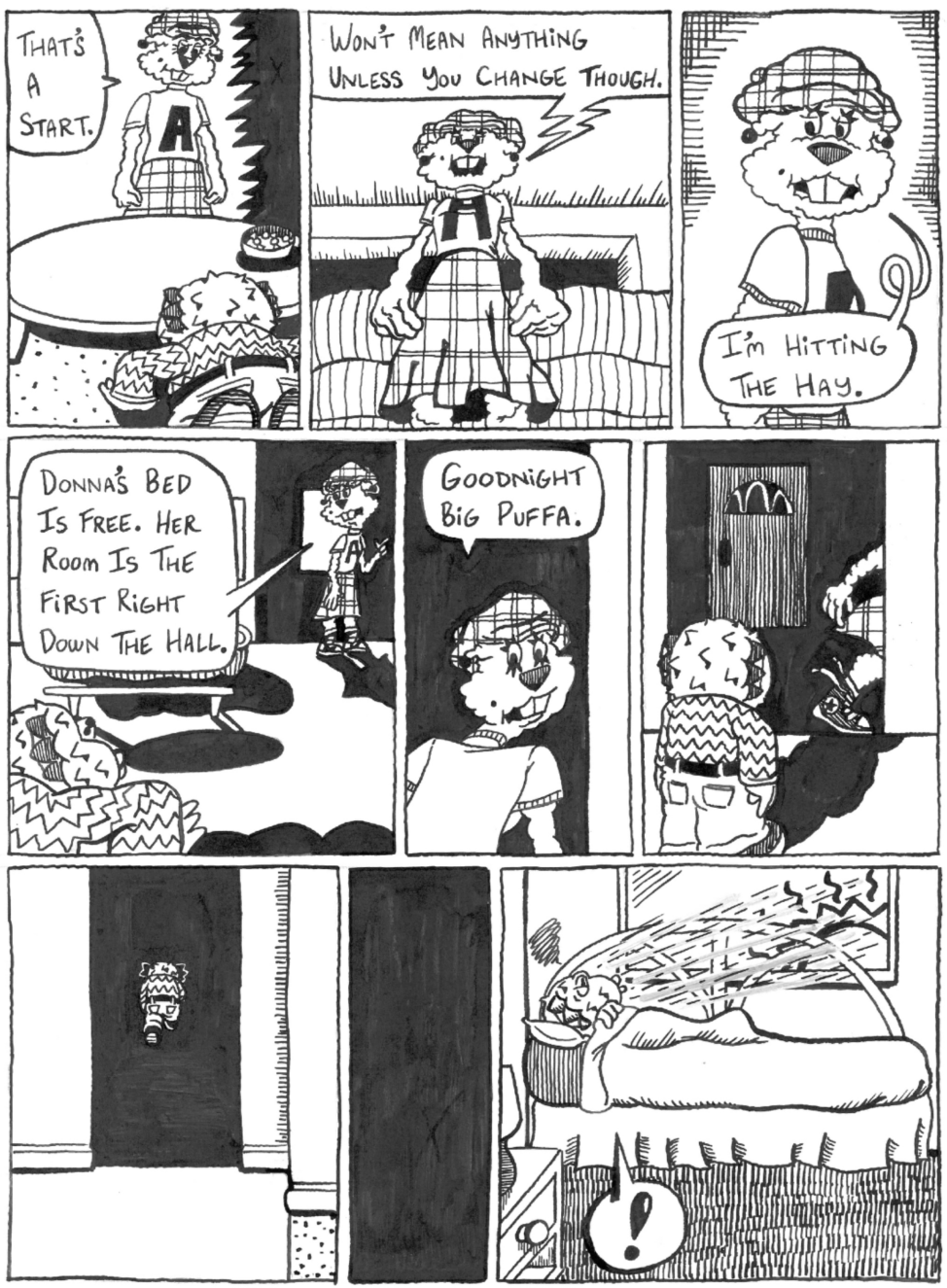
HOWEVER YOU GOT YOUR HANDS ON THIS COMIC, WHETHER IN PERSON OR VIA THE ONLINE PRINT FILE, YOU MAY DO WITH IT HOW YOU WISH! ("RELEASED" IN AUGUST 2026) SEND ME YOUR THOUGHTS! EMAIL: charliefranz6744@Gmail

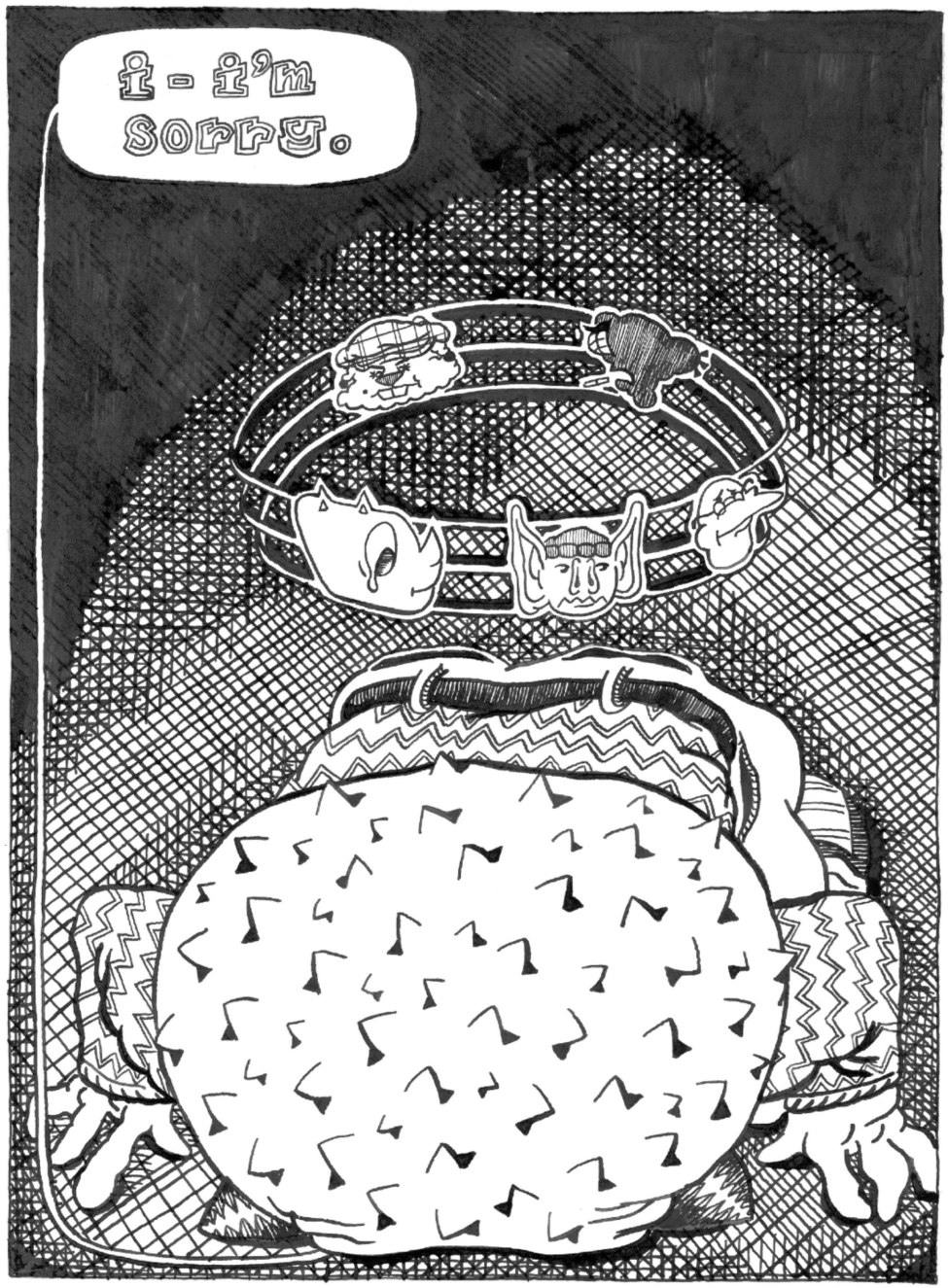
FINAL NOTE TO YOU, DEAR READER: I'M NOT REALLY SURE WHY I DEDICATED 2 YEARS OF MY LIFE TO SUCH A MASTURBATORY EXPLORATION OF IRRATIONAL FEARS OF ABANDONMENT AND CHANGE, BUT I HOPE YOU GOT SOMETHING OUT OF IT. I FELL IN LOVE WITH THE NEW CHARACTERS AND COULD NOT LEAVE THEM IN LIMBO. THANK YOU FOR READING. -♥CHARF.


"PEOPLE COME AND GO
AND FORGET TO CLOSE THE DOOR
AND LEAVE THIER STAINS AND
CIGARETTE BUTTS TRAMPLED ON THE FLOOR
AND WHEN THEY DO,
REMEMBER ME, REMEMBER ME." -BRIAN ENO
END
8/5/26

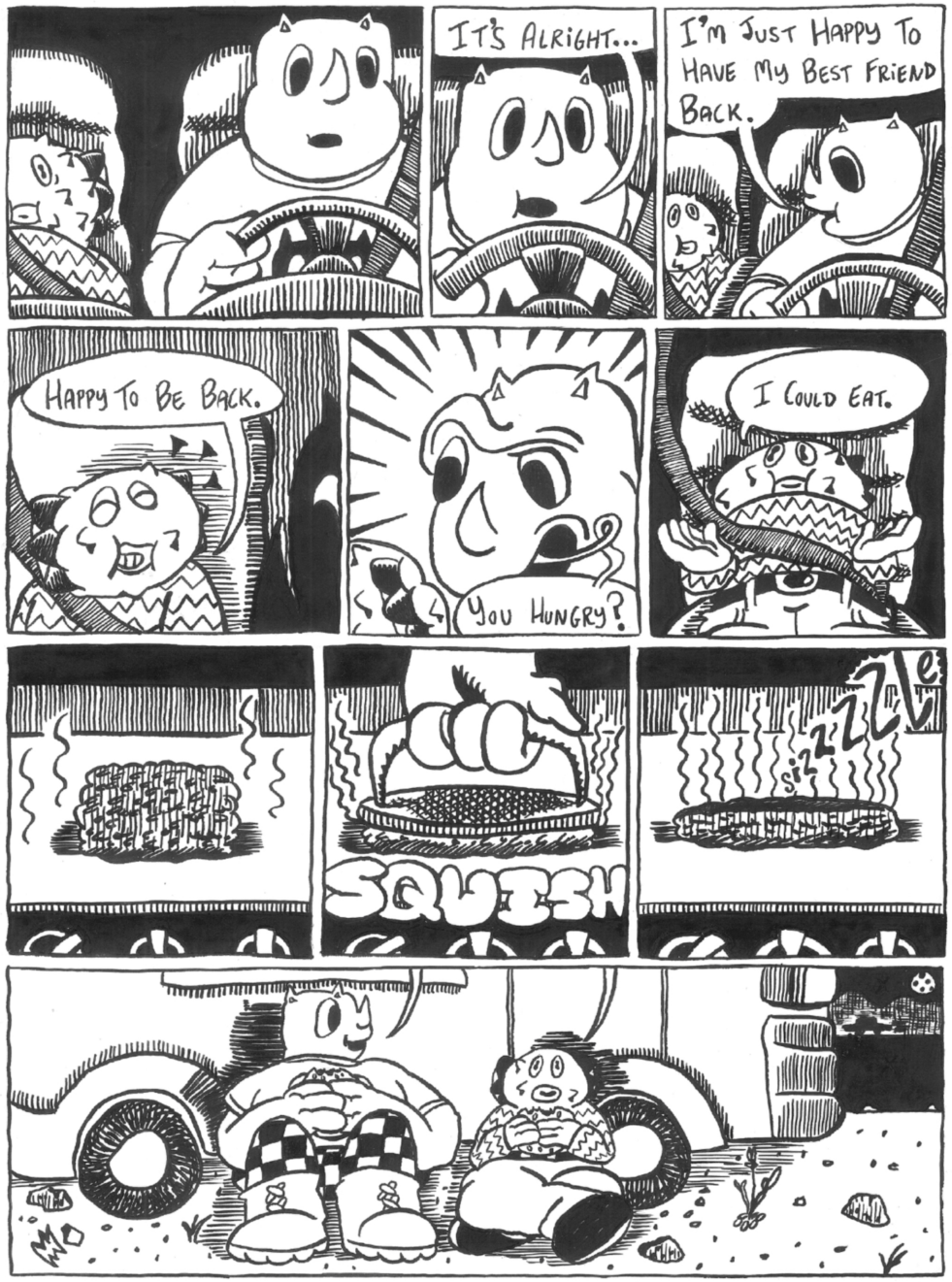

MAY I BORROW YOUR PHONE?
SORRY PAL...
CUSTOMERS ONLY.
TROJAN
FEASTABLES
lil
norm
BIG!
spiked
spice
MEGA
FAST!
I'LL TAKE THIS.
TROJAN norm
MAYBE BUY SOMETHING YOU'LL ACTUALLY USE! HA!
I-i-
-do...
sex.

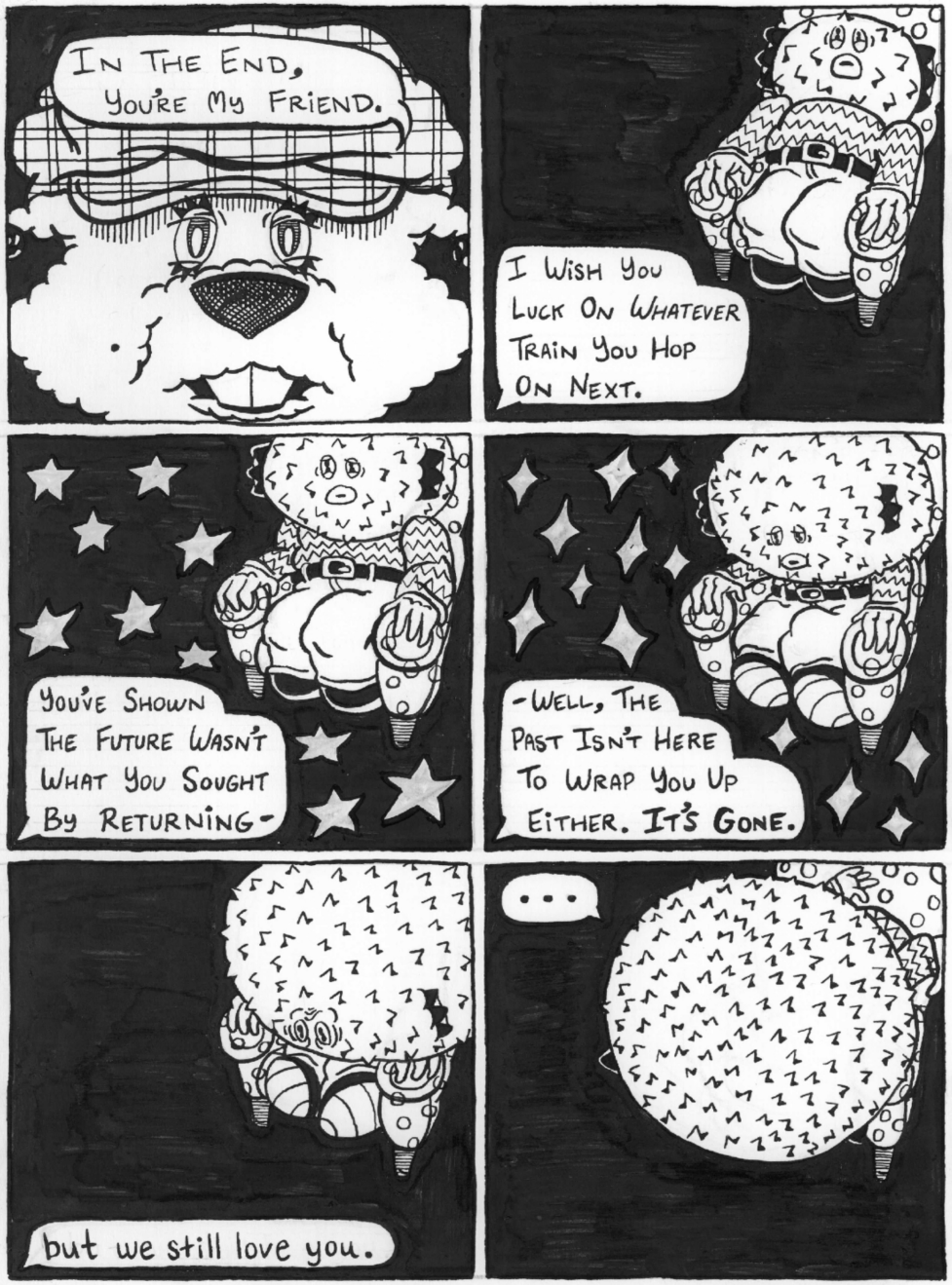
ring-
HEY HANK...
...I UH, I'M BACK IN TOWN.
YOU'RE KIDDIN! HOLY SHIT!
ANYWAY, CAN I GET A RIDE..?
scratch.
I'M AT THE 7-ELEVEN.
I'LL BE RIGHT OVER!
CLICK!
SORRY FOLKS, SHOPS CLOSING EARLY!
SIR, I'VE BEEN IN LINE FOR AN HOUR, I DEMAND YOU MAKE ME A BURGER!
MY BOY IS BACK, GOTTA GO!
YOUR YELP REVIEW IS GOING TO SUFFER!!!
OKAY... MY BALLS.
SLAM!


THAT'S A START.
WON'T MEAN ANYTHING UNLESS YOU CHANGE THOUGH.
I'M HITTING THE HAY.
DONNA'S BED IS FREE. HER ROOM IS THE FIRST RIGHT DOWN THE HALL.
GOODNIGHT BIG PUFFA.


i - i'm sorry.

MOUNTAIN MIKE
MENU
SCREECH!!
HOP ON IN!
ACTUALLY, WAIT ONE SEC.
SLIDE
MISSED YOU TOO.
MISSED YOU MAN.
Y'KNOW, IF YA GAVE ME MORE OF A HEADS UP YOU WERE COMING BACK TO TOWN I COULD'VE MADE A SIGN OR SOMETHING.
-SORRY.
I THINK IT'S BEEN ALMOST 2 YEARS SINCE I'VE HEARD FROM YOU.

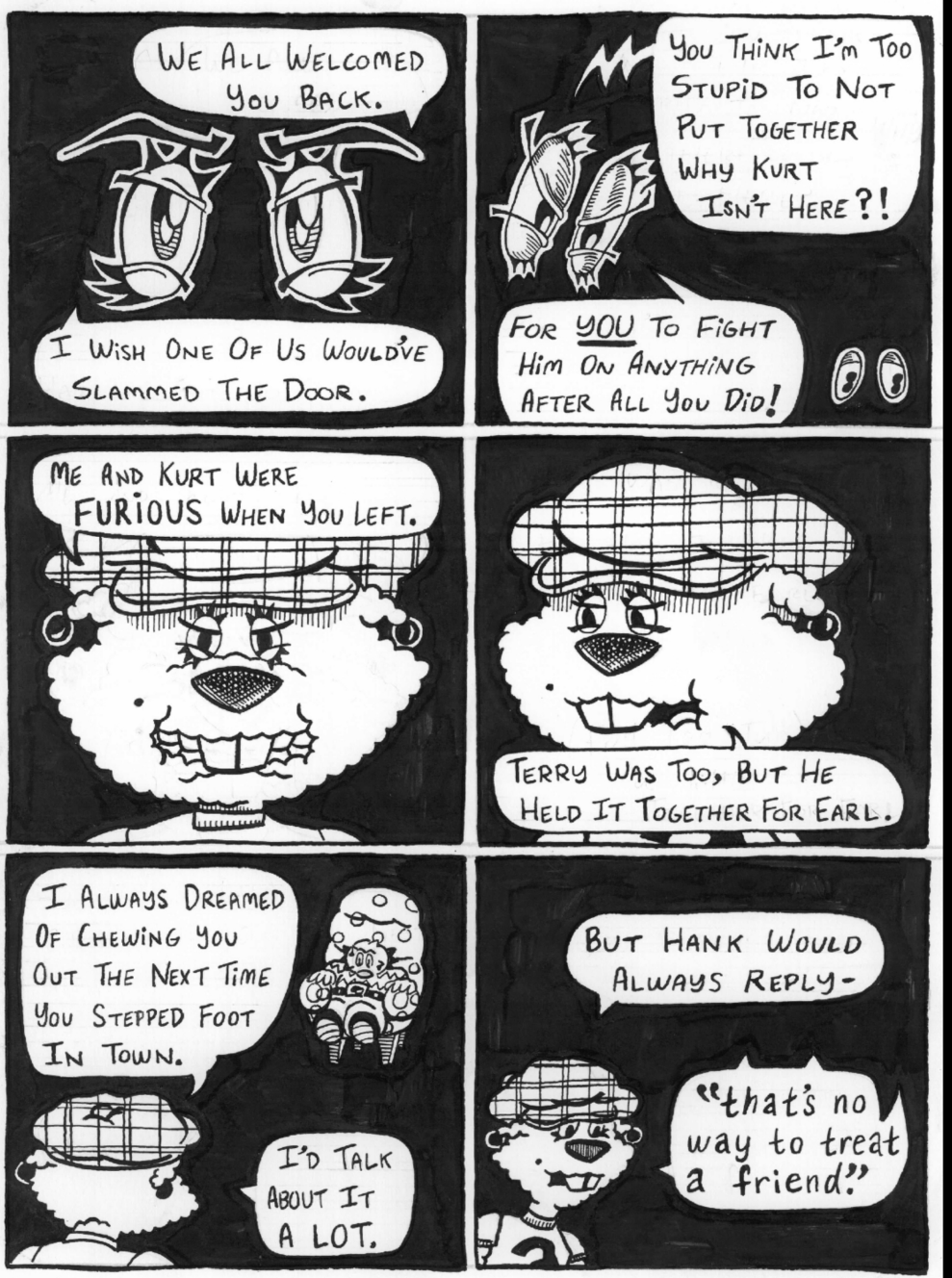

IT'S ALRIGHT...
I'M JUST HAPPY TO HAVE MY BEST FRIEND BACK.
HAPPY TO BE BACK.
YOU HUNGRY?
I COULD EAT.
SQUISH
SIZZLE

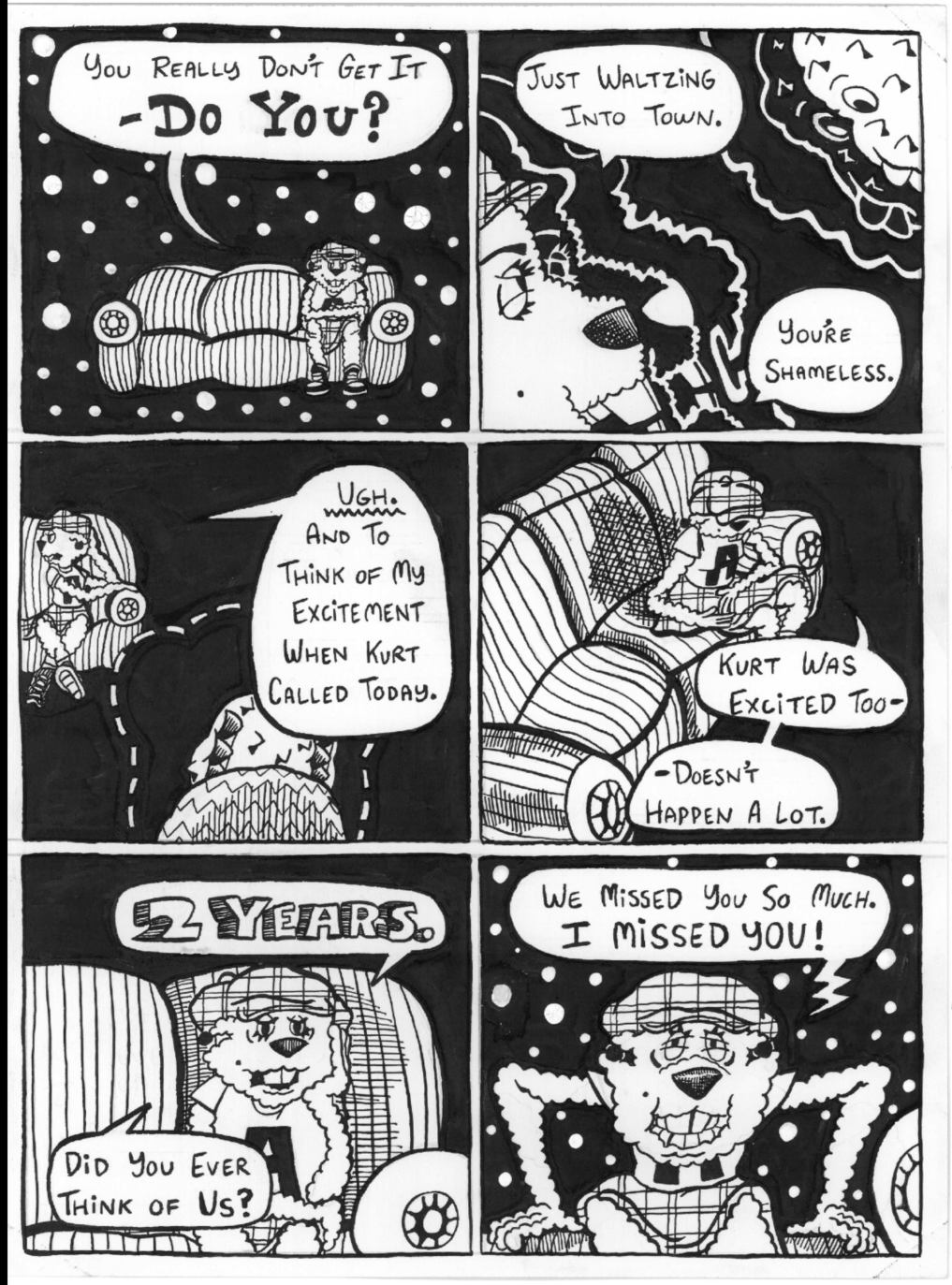

IN THE END, YOU'RE MY FRIEND.
I WISH YOU LUCK ON WHATEVER TRAIN YOU HOP ON NEXT.
YOU'VE SHOWN THE FUTURE WASN'T WHAT YOU SOUGHT BY RETURNING-
-WELL, THE PAST ISN'T HERE TO WRAP YOU UP EITHER. IT'S GONE.
but we still love you.
...

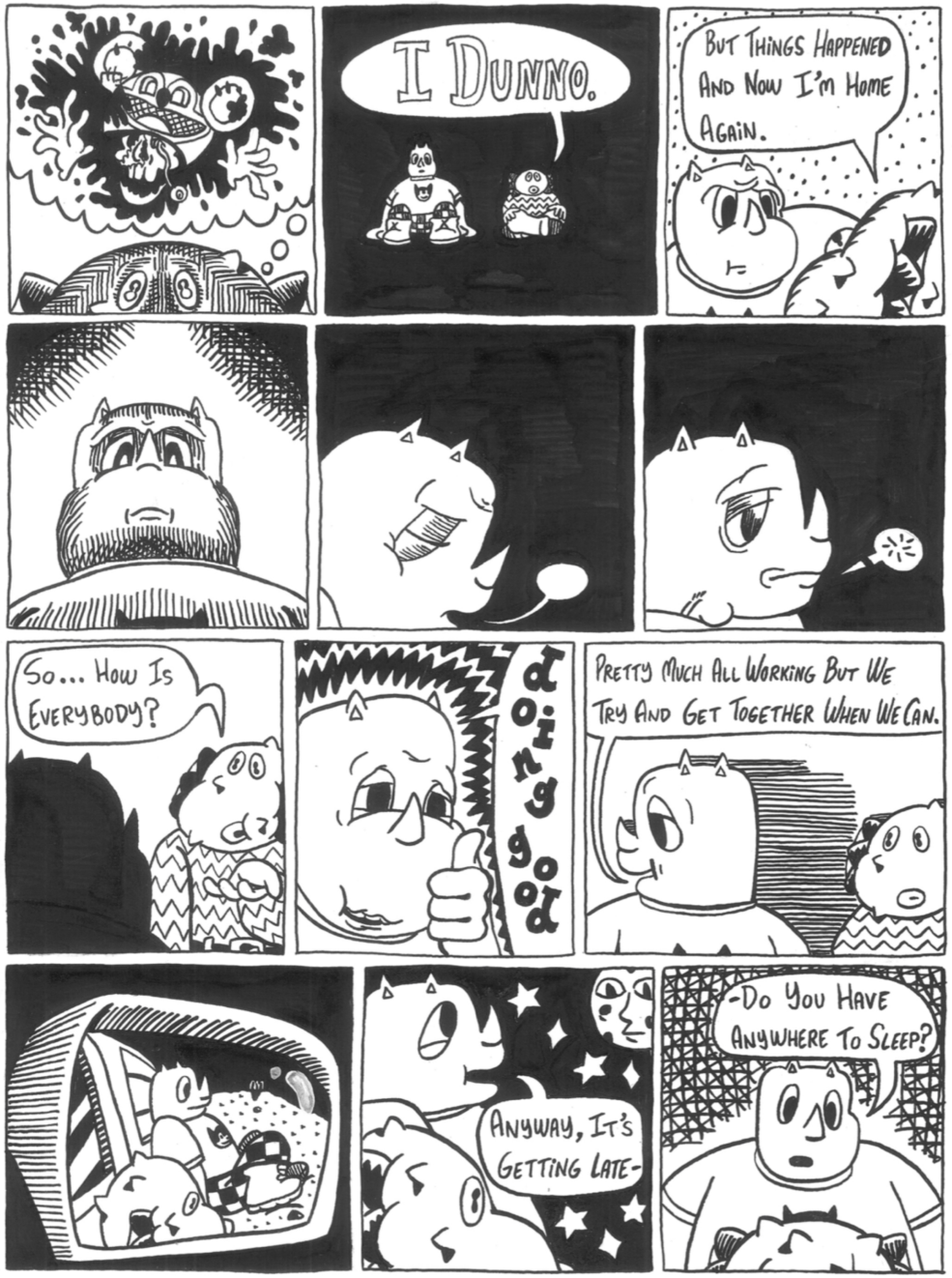
-and he's right.
It's No Use Anyway. You're BLIND.
Hank Was
Did Guilt Ever Cross Your Mind When He Opened His Arms At The Drop of Your Hat?
Did You Even REALLY Apologize?
I Thought His Love For You Is Unique Among Us. It Is For The Most Part. But I Opened My Arms Too.

This Is-- INCREDIBLE!
I Forgot Just How Good You Are At Cooking.
Do You Like The Cheese Skirt?
It's Perfect, Just Enough.
I Can Taste The Mustard Fry Too!
OH YA.
How Long Have You Been Doing This, The Truck I Mean?
Around A Year Now, It Was Tough At The Beginning But I've Gotten More Of A Handle On It Now.
SMACK! PAT!
Always Wanted A Restaurant.
I Like The Big Burger On Top.
HELL YEAH
Enough About Me, How Was Life In The Big City? Did Your Photography Work Out?

Well...
Nice Try CHUMP. Gimme That.
...Well, Uhh I Managed To Lose My Camera Pretty Early On Actually.
I'd Planned To Sell The Photos I'd Taken On It For Money... So I Kinda Had To Just Cruise Thru Odd Jobs For A While.
Sorry To Hear That Man, I'm Sure You Could've Made It Big.
We All Assumed You Were Doing Something Really Special.
Why'd it take you so long to come back?

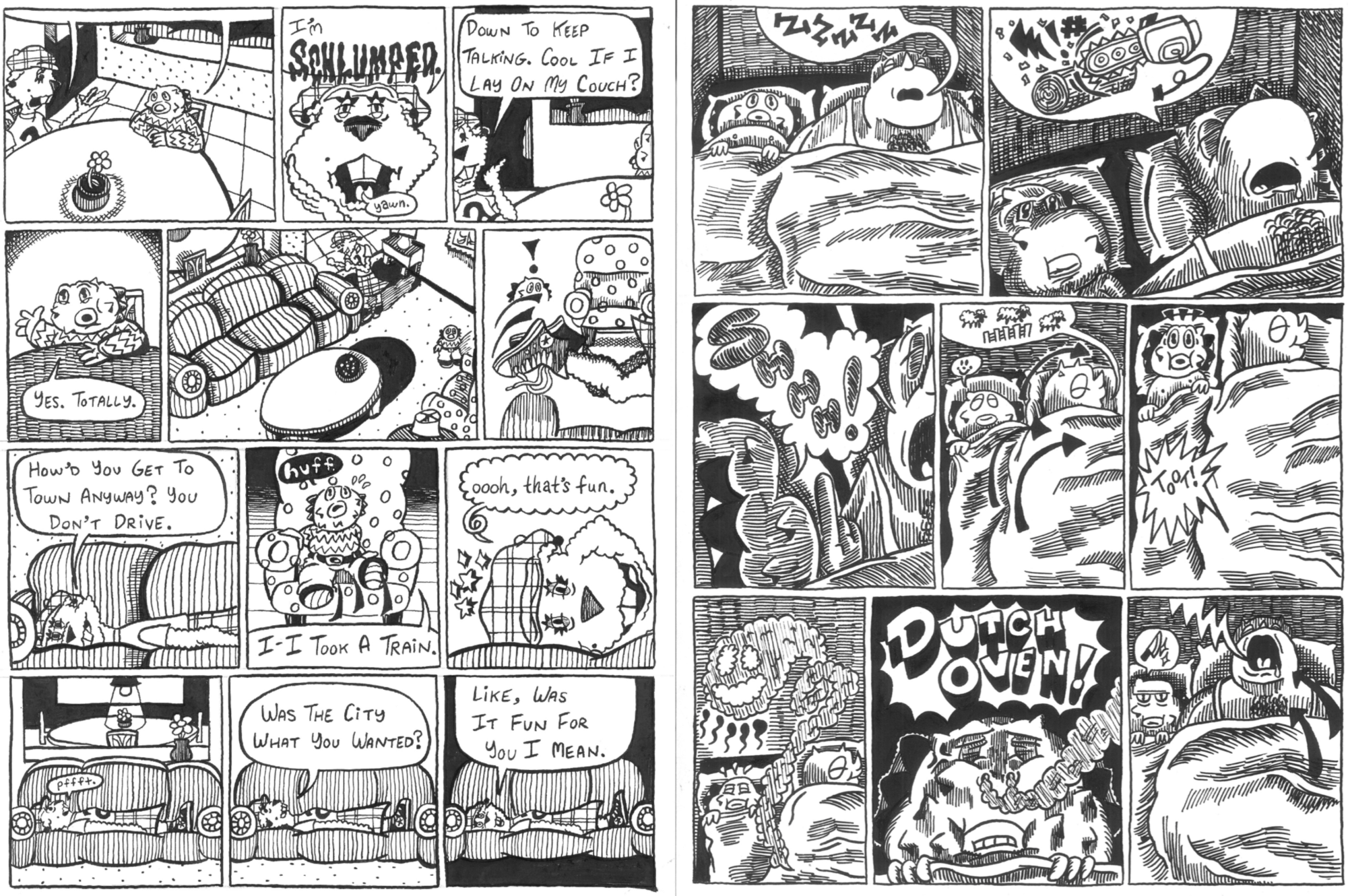

We All Welcomed You Back.
I Wish One Of Us Would've Slammed The Door.
You Think I'm Too Stupid To Not Put Together Why Kurt Isn't Here?!
For YOU To Fight Him On Anything After All You Did!
Me And Kurt Were FURIOUS When You Left.
Terry Was Too, But He Held It Together For Earl.
I Always Dreamed Of Chewing You Out The Next Time You Stepped Foot In Town.
I'd Talk About It A LOT.
But Hank Would Always Reply-
"that's no way to treat a friend."


You Really Don't Get It -Do You?
Just Waltzing Into Town.
You're Shameless.
Ugh. And To Think of My Excitement When Kurt Called Today.
Kurt Was Excited Too-
-Doesn't Happen A Lot.
2 Years.
Did You Ever Think of Us?
We Missed You So Much. I Missed You!


I Dunno.
But Things Happened And Now I'm Home Again.
So... How Is Everybody?
doing good
Pretty Much All Working But We Try And Get Together When We Can.
Anyway, It's Getting Late-
-Do You Have Anywhere To Sleep?

MIKE'S C
BUY • SELL • CAR
HANK'S
WELL, THIS IS THE PLACE!
YOU LIVE IN A USED CAR DEALERSHIP?
MIKE'S CARS
NO BRO, CHECK 3T.
THE OWNER LETS ME PARK MY TRUCK HERE FREE AND LETS ME SLEEP IN THAT TRAILER!
ISN'T THAT JUST ONE OF THOSE RENTABLE U-HAULS?
BASICALLY YA, BUT IT'S COVERED IN ADS FOR THE DEALERSHIP SO PEOPLE COME BUY CARS...
WE BUY... CARS, TRUCK VANS, RVS, M you name it!
GOOD MILEAGE SELL!
FAST
CONVERTIBLES
BUY
...AND IT HAS MY BED INSIDE!
YOU GOT A BATHROOM TOO?
JUST A BED ACTUALLY.
?
I'M SURE WE'LL BOTH FIT JUST FINE.

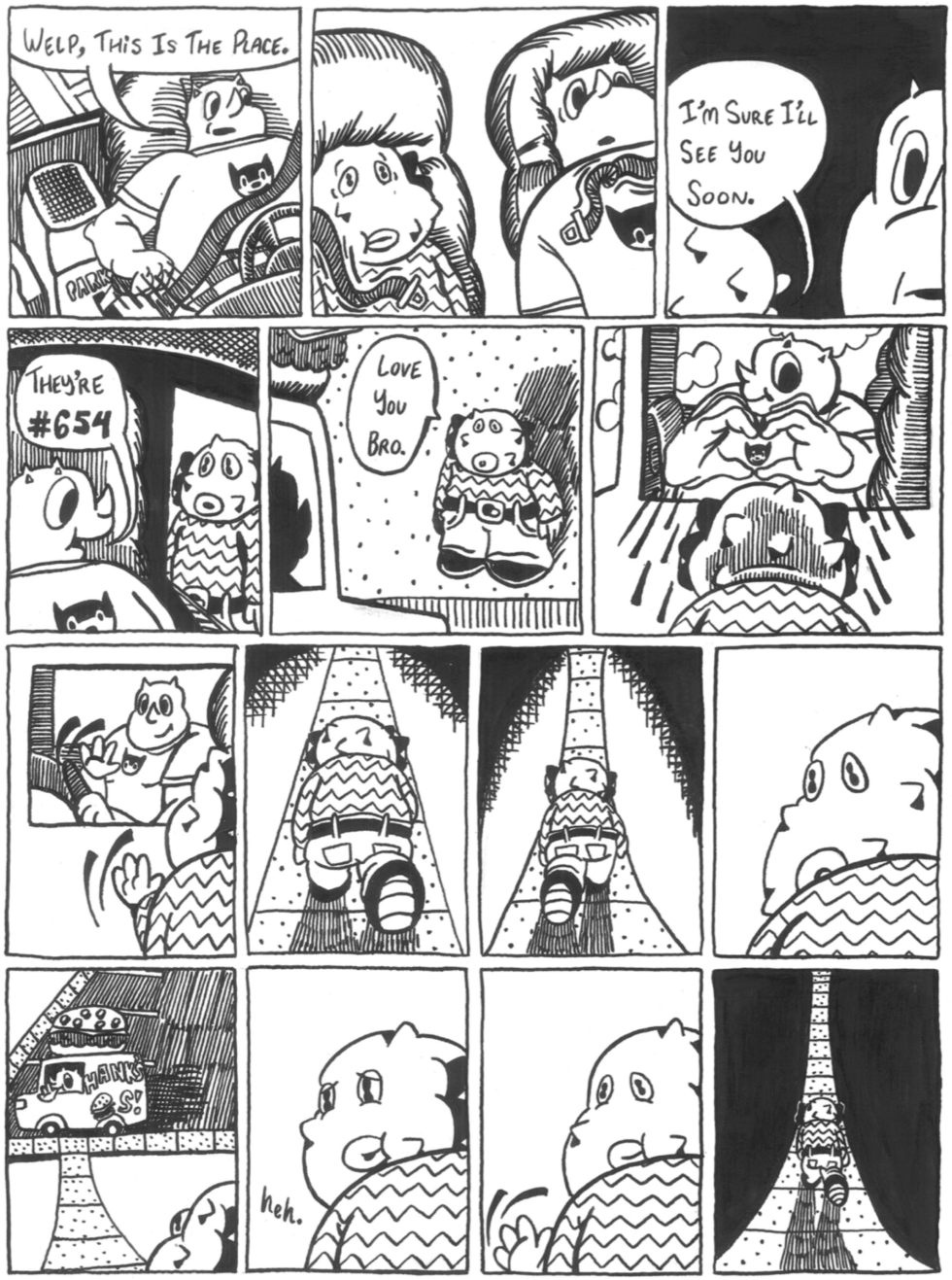
I GUESS SO. IT WAS FUN AT TIMES.
SEEMED LIKE A BETTER FIT FOR YOU THAN ME.
YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO BUILD SKYSCRAPERS.
ha! YEAH. STILL DO.
SOMEDAY I'M SURE I'LL MOVE.
BUT I DON'T SEE MYSELF HANKERING TO RUN AWAY SO SOON.
...
WHAT'S YOUR PLAN NOW?
I'M YOUR LAST STOP, AREN'T I?
-YOU CAN CRASH HERE THIS WEEKEND - MY ROOMMATES ARE GONE!
-IF YOU'RE STILL FIGURING IT OUT.
that's very swee-
GOD, I'M PATHETIC.

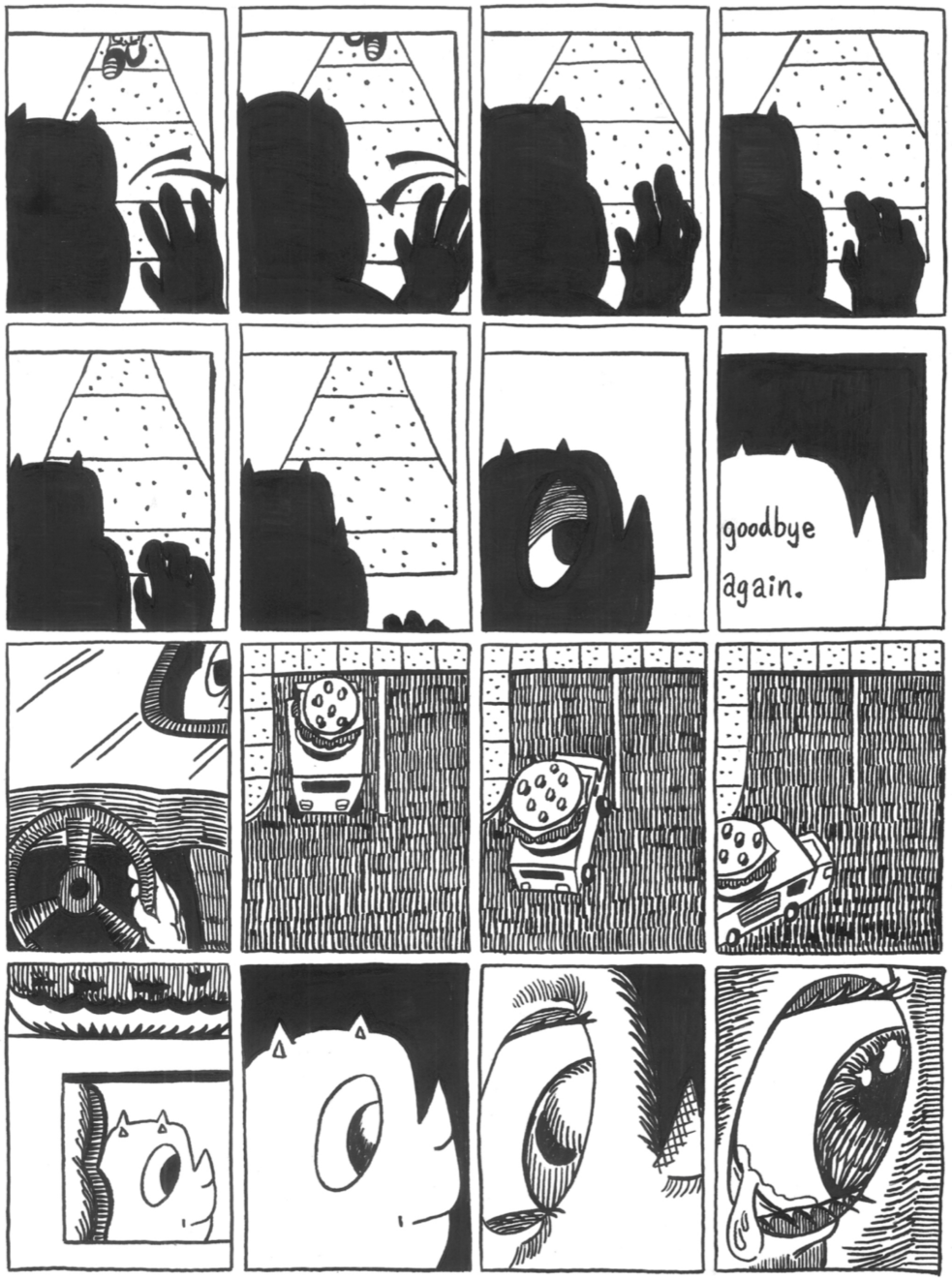

I'm SCHLUMPED.
yawn.
DOWN TO KEEP TALKING. COOL IF I LAY ON MY COUCH?
YES. TOTALLY.
!
HOW'D YOU GET TO TOWN ANYWAY? YOU DON'T DRIVE.
huff.
I-I TOOK A TRAIN.
oooh, that's fun.
pffft.
WAS THE CITY WHAT YOU WANTED?
LIKE, WAS IT FUN FOR YOU I MEAN.
ZZZZZ
TOOT!
DUTCH OVEN!

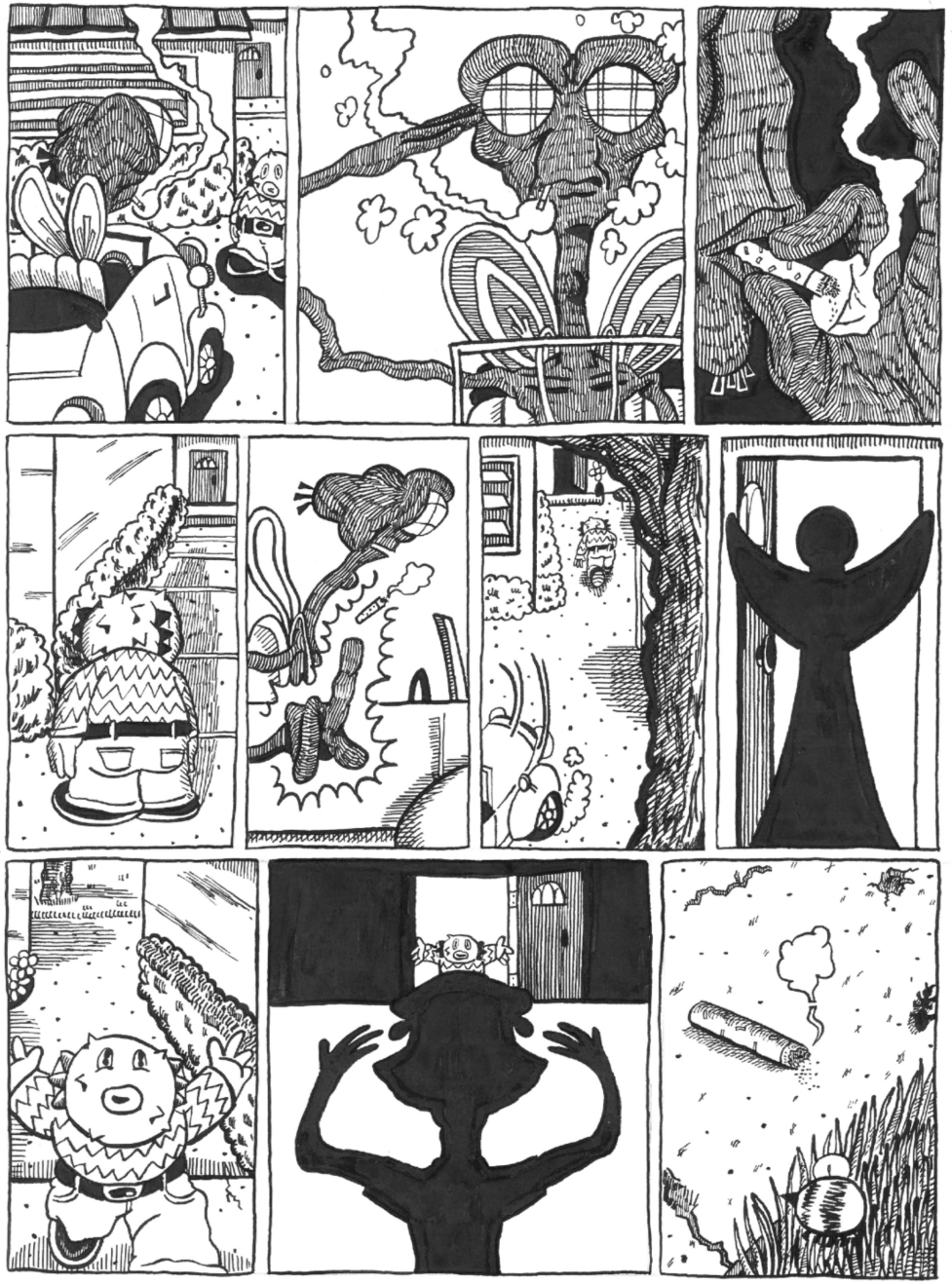
COCK-A DOODLE-DO!
"Wiggle"
Good Morning Puffa!
How'd You Sleep?
HORRIBLE.
Sorry About That-
-ALL BEEF DIET.
So... what's the plan for today?
Gotta Work Today After Taking Yesterday Off-
Burgers Won't Flip Themselves!
I'd Love To Have You In The Truck With Me All Day If You Wanted-
That's Sweet Hank
-But I'm Sure You Wanna See The Others Too.
I'll Take You By Terry and Earls,
At Least If They're Working Too You'll Have More Room To Crash.
Thanks Hank, You're The Best.
Of Course Buddy.

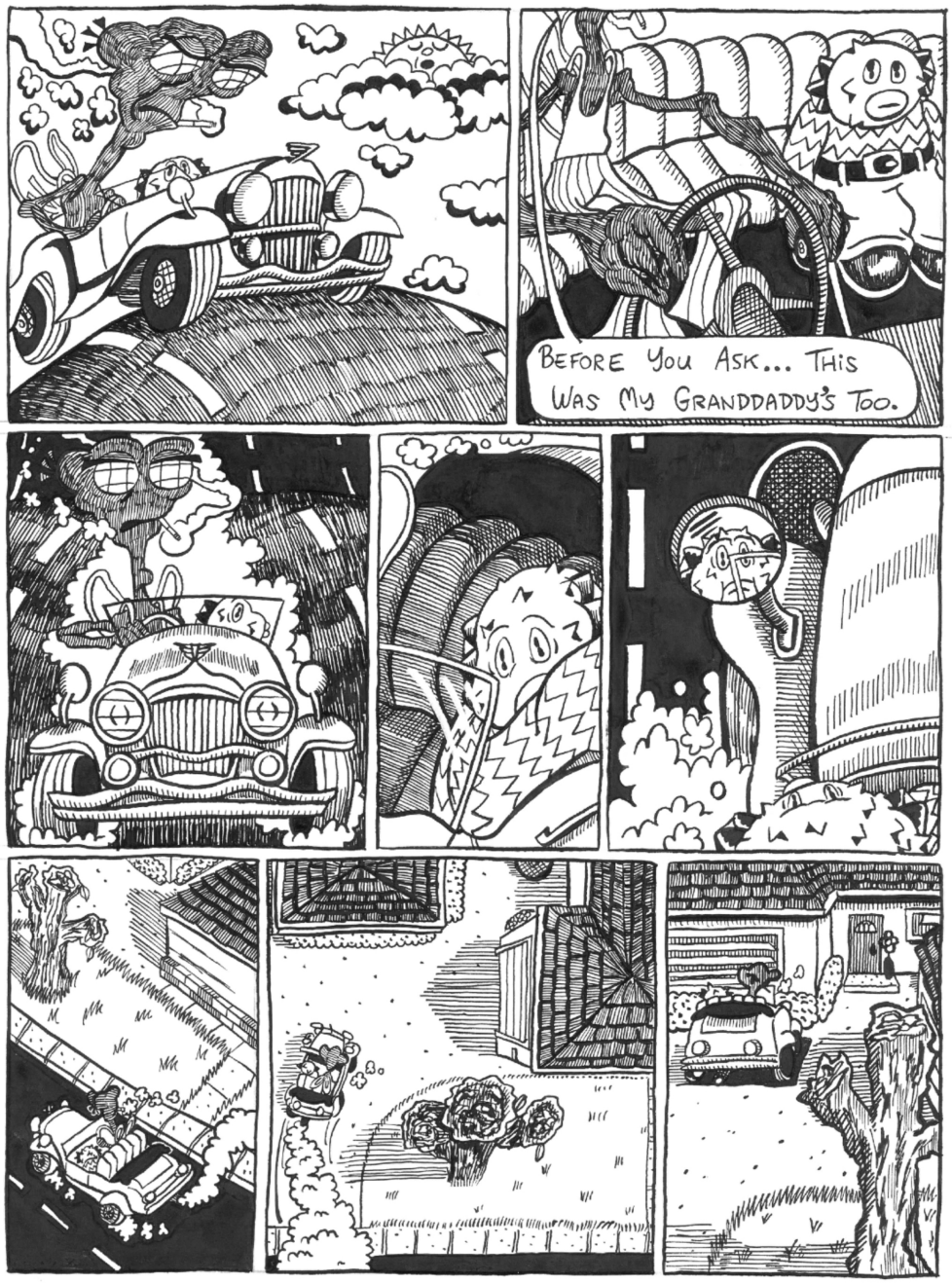
So Angie, How Was Work?
Long Today.
But Things Are Going Well, I'll Be Able To Get My Engineering License In A Few Years.
Oh Hell Yeah, That's Awesome.
Where Are You Working?
At The DAM.
Here You Are.
It's Friday-
-I'm Having An Eddy With Dinner.
Care To Join?
No Thanks, You Remember Last Time.
PARTY POOPER!
I Guess Only One Ticket To Eddy City Tonight!

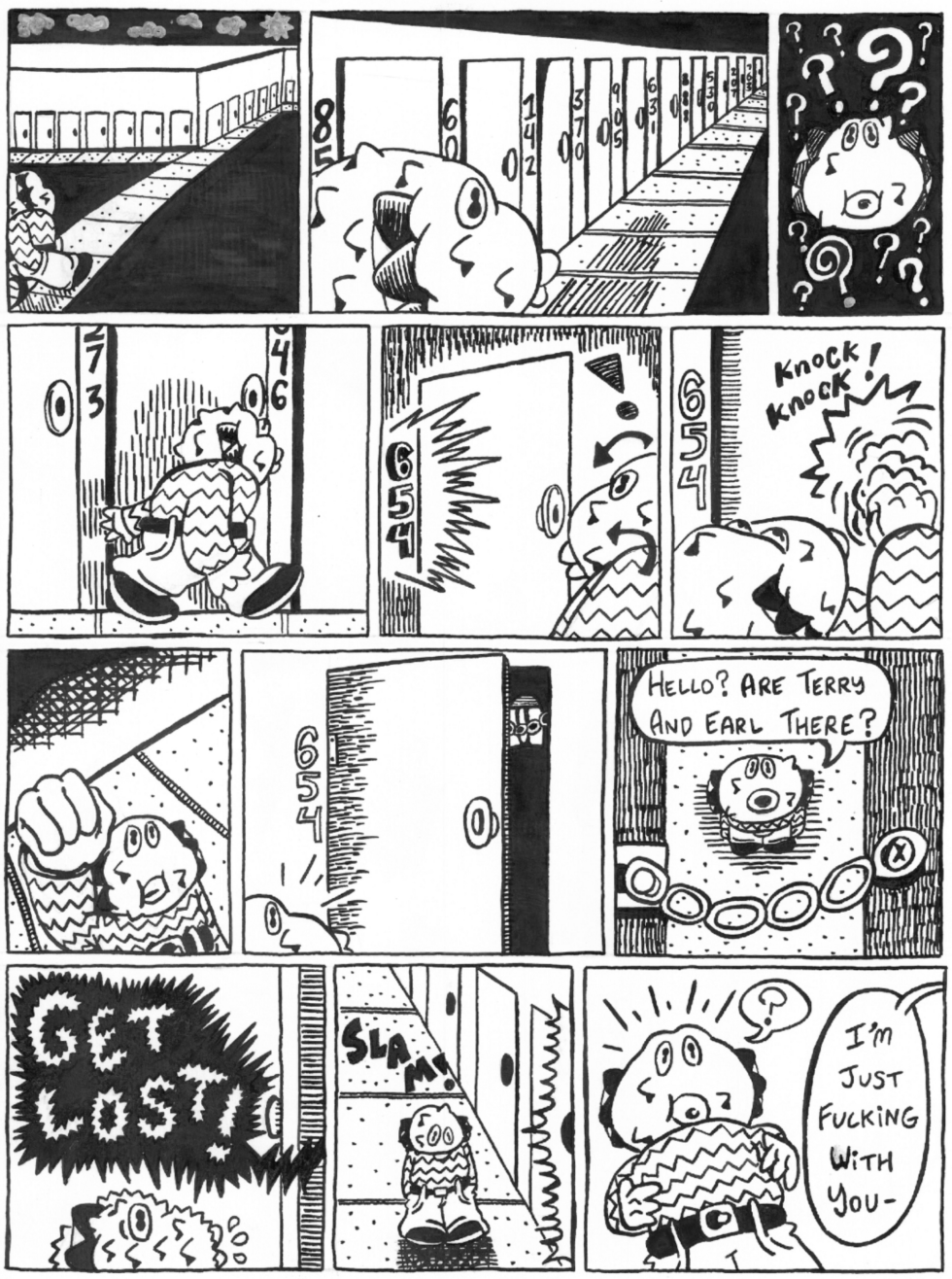
Bummer Kurt bailed last minute-
-that asshole.
Yeah. He uh- had plans I guess.
Oh well. Cool you're here!
How do you like it?
it's really cozy.
I have two roommates too, you'd LOVE THEM.
Donna makes some killer cookies.
God, Kurt never eats you're probably starving!
I'll make some ramen.
Thank you.


Welp, this is the place.
I'm sure I'll see you soon.
They're #654
Love you bro.
heh.

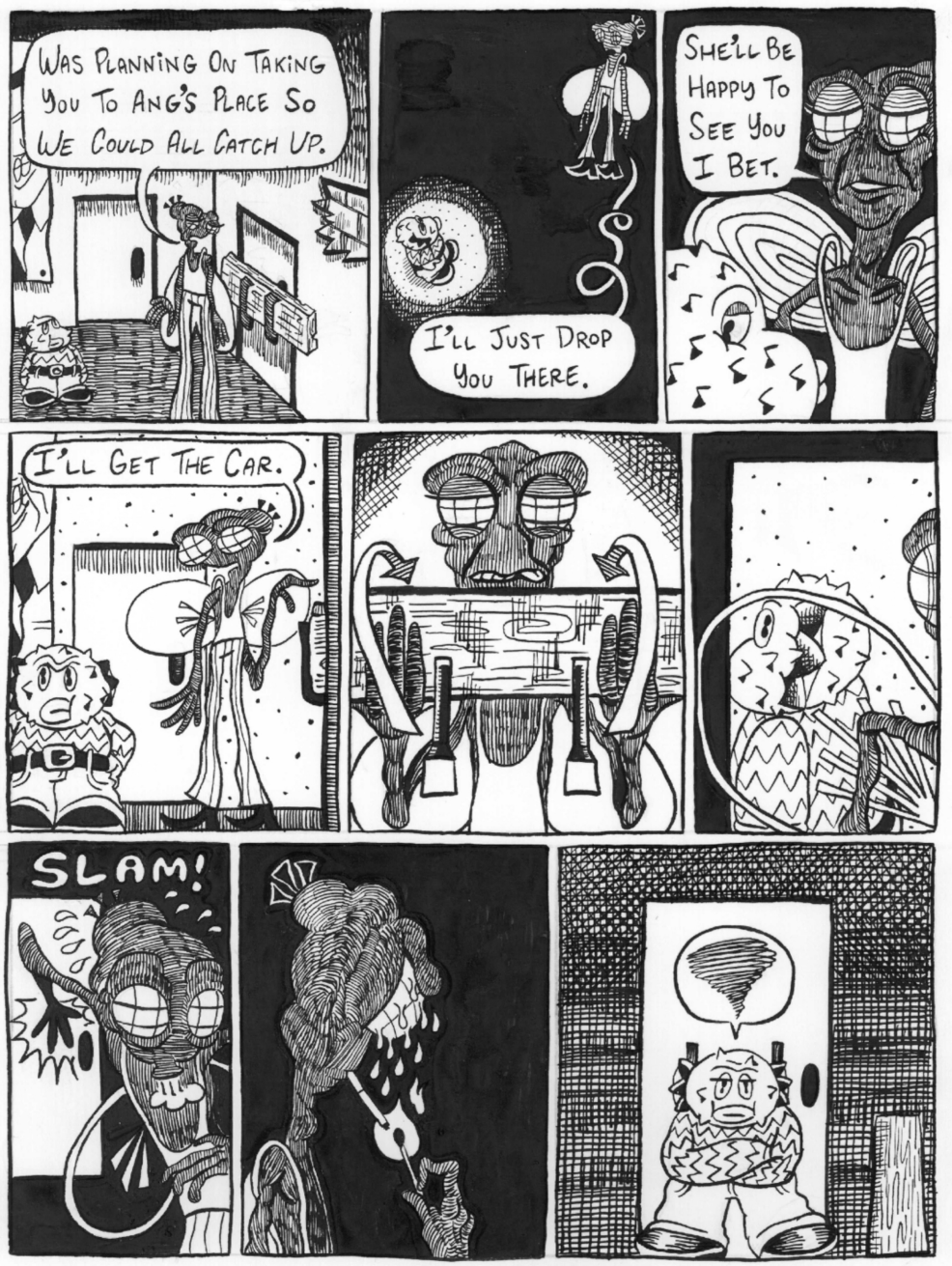

goodbye
again.




BEFORE YOU ASK... THIS WAS MY GRANDDADDY'S TOO.

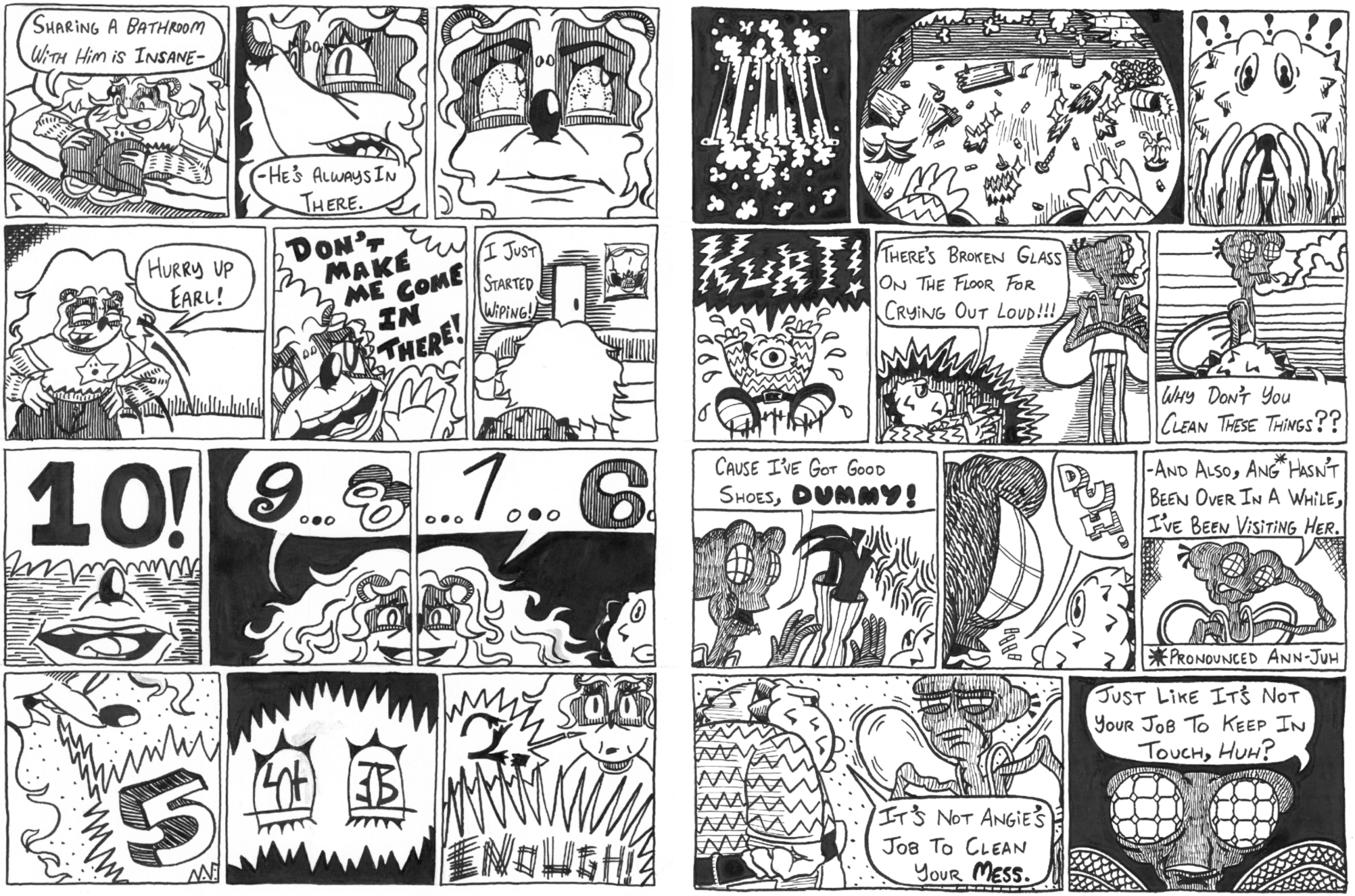

654
KNOCK! KNOCK!
HELLO? ARE TERRY AND EARL THERE?
GET LOST!
SLAM!
I'm JUST FUCKING WITH YOU-

SASHA IS THE NAME... AND TERRY IS MY
OH, COOL. NICE TO MEET YOU.
DO I SHAKE HER HAND?
OR GIVE LIKE A HUG???
WHERE'S TERRY?
WELL, TOO LATE FOR THAT NOW.
TERR* IS AT THE STORE, BUT HE'LL BE BACK SOON!
*PRONOUNCED TEH-AIR
YOU MUST BE PUFFA! HANK TOLD US YOU'D BE DROPPING IN.
SAY SOMETHING.
THAT'S ME!
WELL, C'MON IN!
earl's here-
-LET'S GET HIM!


WAS PLANNING ON TAKING YOU TO ANG'S PLACE SO WE COULD ALL CATCH UP.
I'LL JUST DROP YOU THERE.
SHE'LL BE HAPPY TO SEE YOU I BET.
I'LL GET THE CAR.
SLAM!

...
Fuck You.
OH?!
Fuck me?
NO.
FUCK.
YOU.
To Have The GALL To Come Back After Your Little Disappearing Act—
—You Make Me SICK.
Like You Were Always A Saint To Everybody.
No. definitely not.
But At Least I Have The Decency To Say Goodbye.
And I'll Say It Now.
Goodbye.

Welcome In!
I Don't Know Why I Never Expected A Girlfriend. Good- Though. Seems- -For Him She- -Cool.
Ugh. He Probably Spends All His Time With Her.
Make Yourself At home!
Let Me Get Earl.
EARL! Get Out Here! There's A Surprise!
I'm Pooping!
Sorry, he's taking a shit.

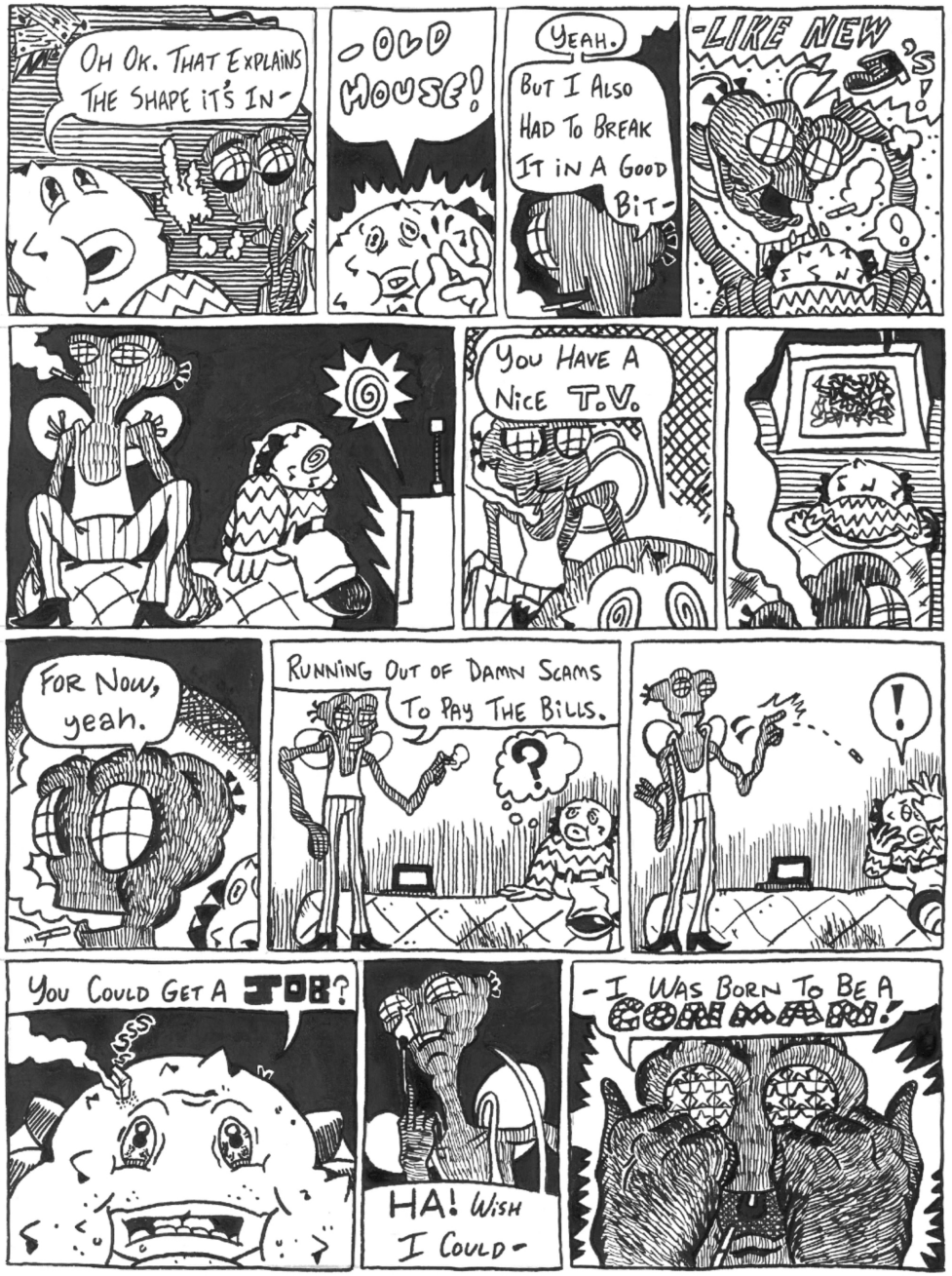

SHARING A BATHROOM WITH HIM IS INSANE-
-HE'S ALWAYS IN THERE.
HURRY UP EARL!
DON'T MAKE ME COME IN THERE!
I JUST STARTED WIPING!
10!
9...8...7...6...
5
4
3
ENOUGH!
KLRT!
THERE'S BROKEN GLASS ON THE FLOOR FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!!!
WHY DON'T YOU CLEAN THESE THINGS??
CAUSE I'VE GOT GOOD SHOES, DUMMY!
DUH
-AND ALSO, ANG* HASN'T BEEN OVER IN A WHILE, I'VE BEEN VISITING HER.
*PRONOUNCED ANN-JUH
IT'S NOT ANGIE'S JOB TO CLEAN YOUR MESS.
JUST LIKE IT'S NOT YOUR JOB TO KEEP IN TOUCH, HUH?

You're Right Though.
I Could Use Something To Occupy my Time More.
SLUMP.
We All Used To Spend So Much Time Together.
SLAP!
Boy Do I Wish Times Were Like They Used To-
-They Keep Moving Up On Me, CHANGIN' ABOUT!
But Not Without A Fight I Say!!!
NOT WITHOUT A FIGHT!
Could We Open A Window?
My Eyes Are Burning.
Blocked Them Off. It'll Go Through The Vents-
-BE PATIENT.

YOU CAN'T DO THAT!
Bro Chill.
It's Not That Deep.
it is that deep.
We Would've Waited, I Just Wanted You To Hurry, THAT'S ALL.
Why Didn't You Finish Wiping Before You Came Out?
I Couldn't Let You Get To 1.
WHY?

BECAUSE...
BECAUSE I'D CUM OK!? YOU HAPPY NOW?!
HA HA?
whew!
SORRY. NEEDED THAT.
WHY ON EARTH WOULD YOU CUM?
IT'S A PAVLOVIAN RESPONSE.
how dude? ...HOW?
welllll...
I DON'T WANNA HEAR IT. GO TAKE A SHOWER FOR CHRISSAKE.
MY BAD I DIDN'T SAY HELLO. hi Puffa! I'd GIVE YOU A HUG BUT MY HANDS PROB HAVE SHIT ON THEM, AND I CAN'T PULL UP MY PANTS.
GO SHOWER!
too de-loo!

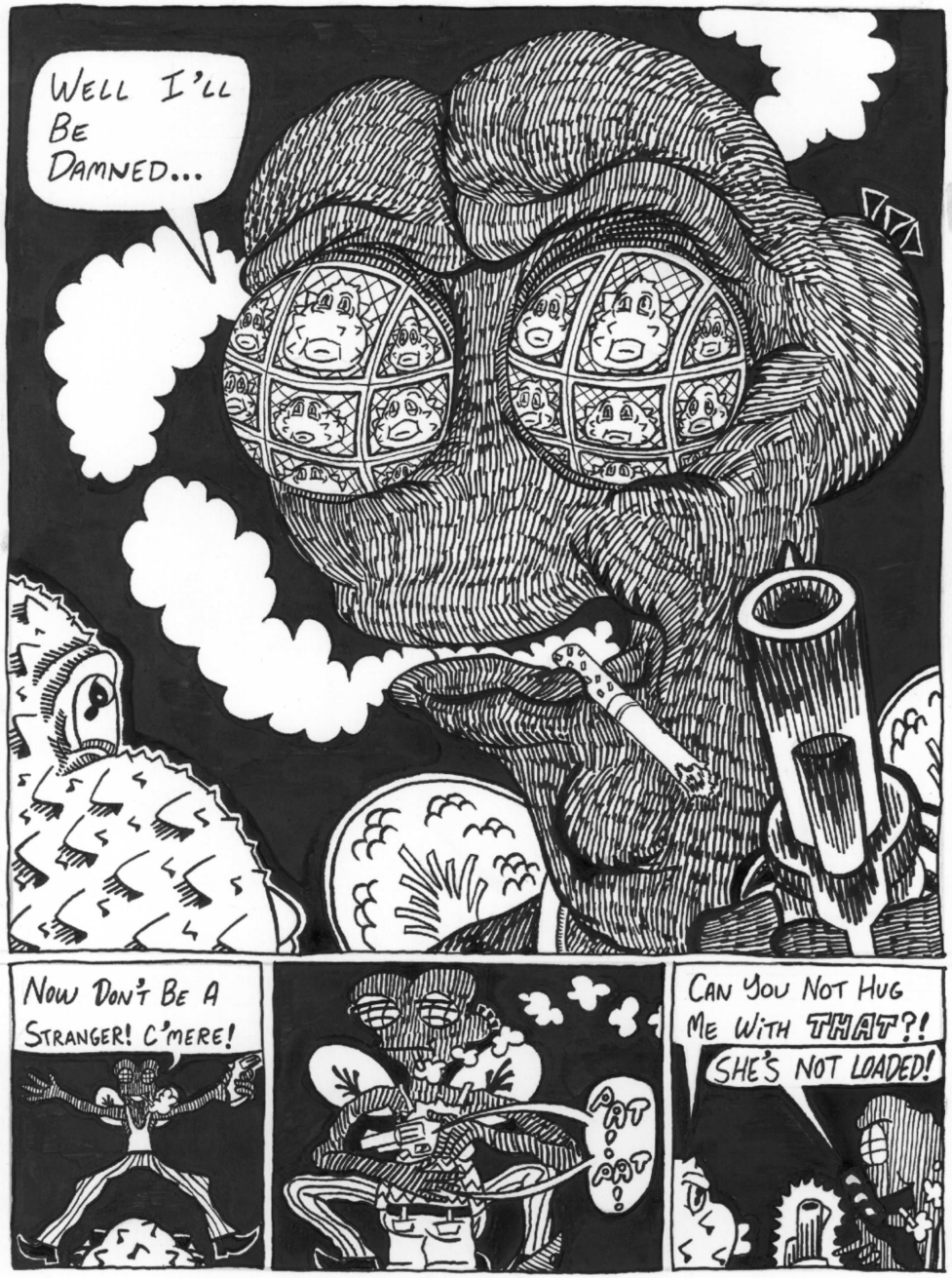
WHAT KIND OF SCAMS DO YOU PULL?
JUST MINOR ONES REALLY-
-CATFISHING ON FACEBOOK, RETURN POLICY LOOPHOLES... THE BASICS!
YOU'LL LEARN A LOT ON REDDIT.
DID A HUGE ORDER OF THESE BAD-BOYS IN BULK AND EMAILED THEY NEVER CAME!
BOOM! REFUND!
AND HAVE YOU SEEN THESE?!
hallo-ween orange
pin-stripe PANT!
GOT THESE FROM A DUMPSTER BEHIND SPIRIT HALLOWEEN! EH?!
NICE, DUDE.


Oh Ok. That Explains The Shape it's In-
-Old House!
Yeah.
But I Also Had To Break It in A Good Bit-
-Like New's!
You Have A Nice T.V.
For Now, yeah.
Running Out of Damn Scams To Pay The Bills.
?
!
You Could Get A JOB?
HA! Wish I Could-
-I Was Born To Be A GOMAMA!

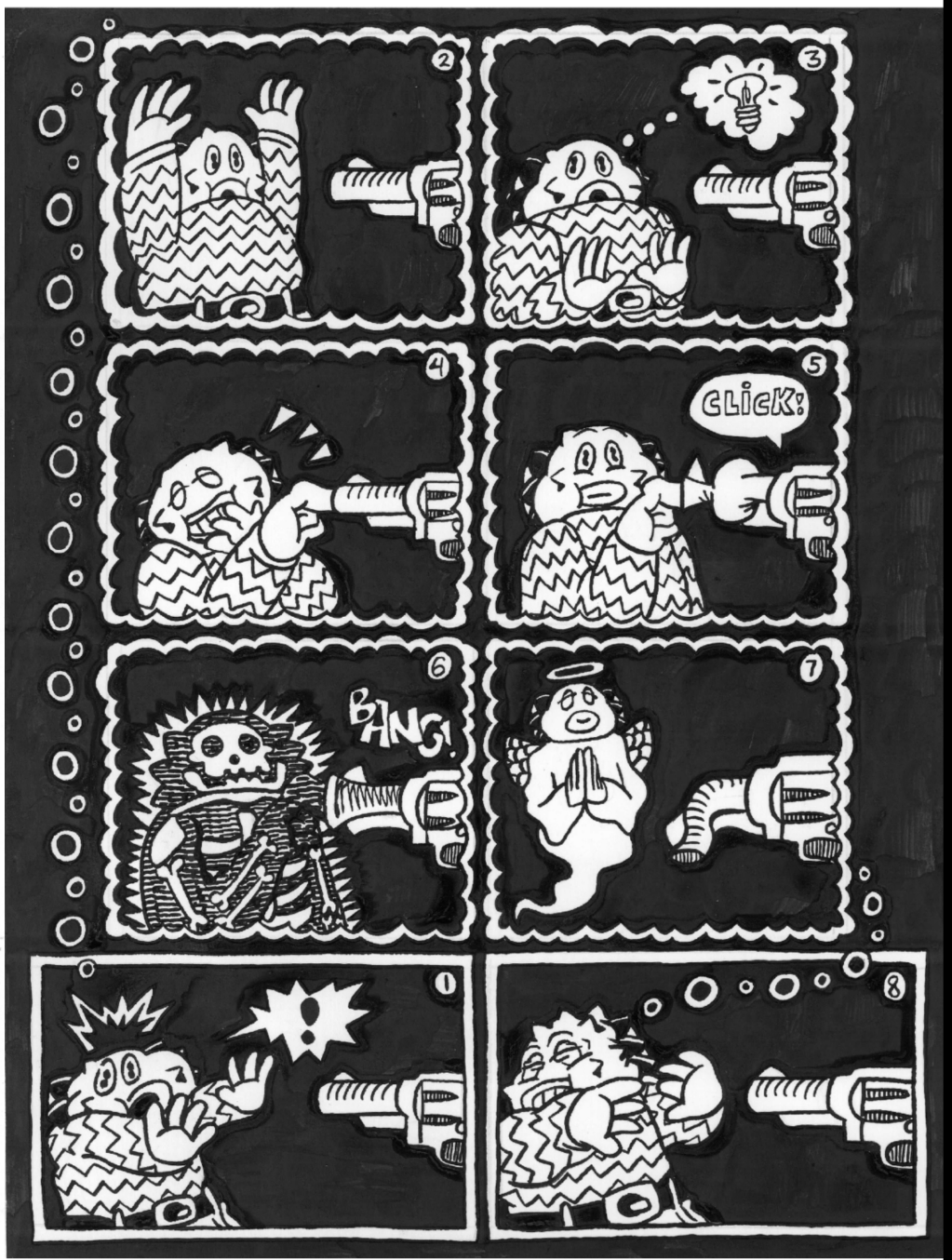
ANYWAY...
SLUMP.
-How Long Are You Planning To Stay In Town?
y'know, I'm Not Really Sure.
How Long Have You And Terry Been Together?
Almost A Year!
We Work With Earl At The Record Store, So Once We Started Dating I Moved In.
that's nice.
Damn, They Moved Fast.
Honey I'm Home!-
Get Ova' Here, You!
Been Too Long, Puff.

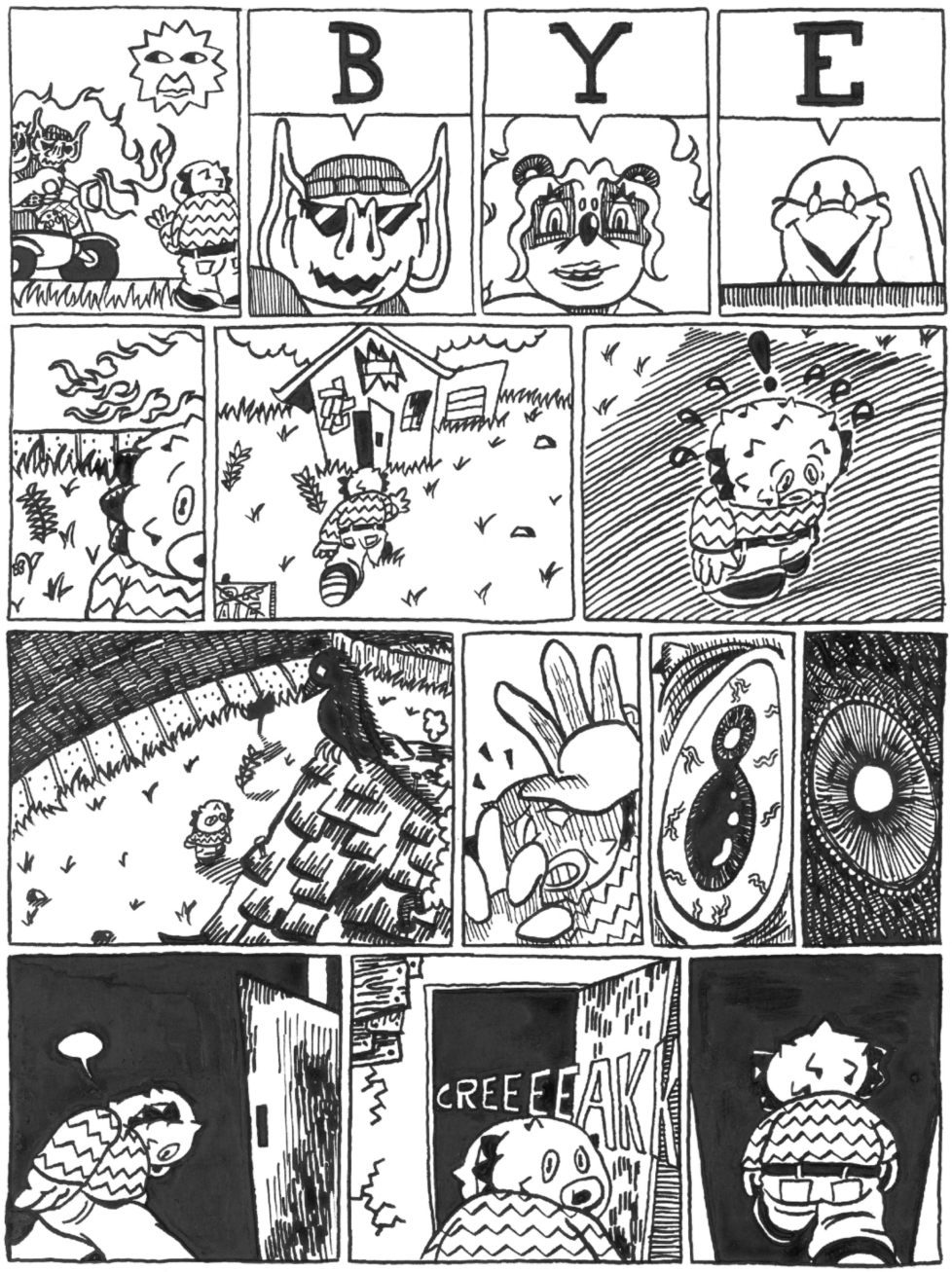
Hi Terr.
So Great To See You Puff!
You Too Terry!
Wish We Could Stay and Hang, But We're Just About To Leave For Work.
Feel Free To Tag Along Though, If You'd Like.
All Good.
I'll Prob Just Rest Up I'm Pretty Tired
Well, Hey! Help Yourself To Movies and Such.
We Have TONS.
Wait. Where's Earl??
Just Cleaning Up. Shouldn't Be Long.
Ok Dope. Don't Rush Him-
He DOES NOT Do Well With Countdowns.

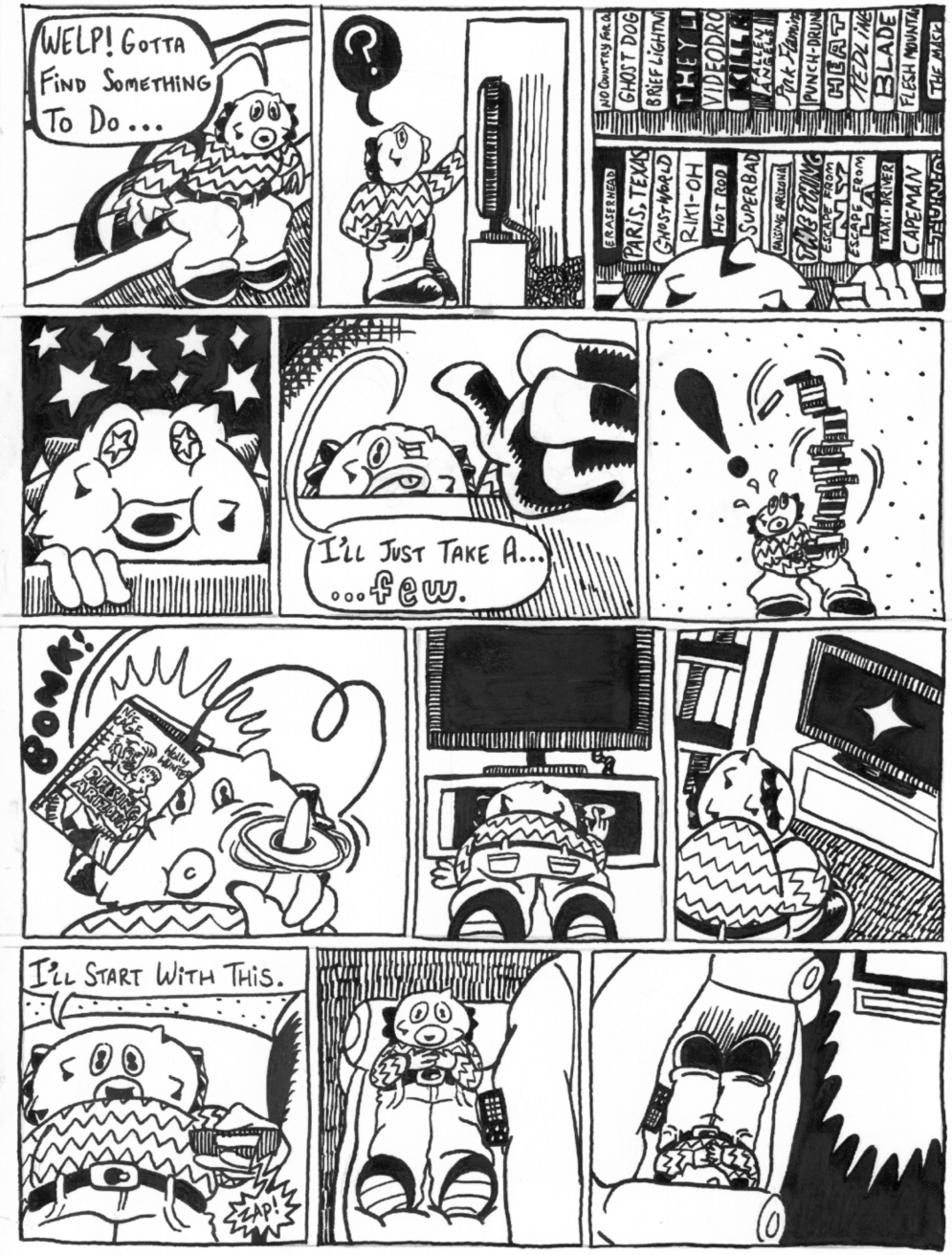
Check Out The Pad!
CLICK.
Don't Mind That.
What Do You Think Of The Place?
It's... Something.
How Did You Get This House?
Inheritance From My Granddaddy!

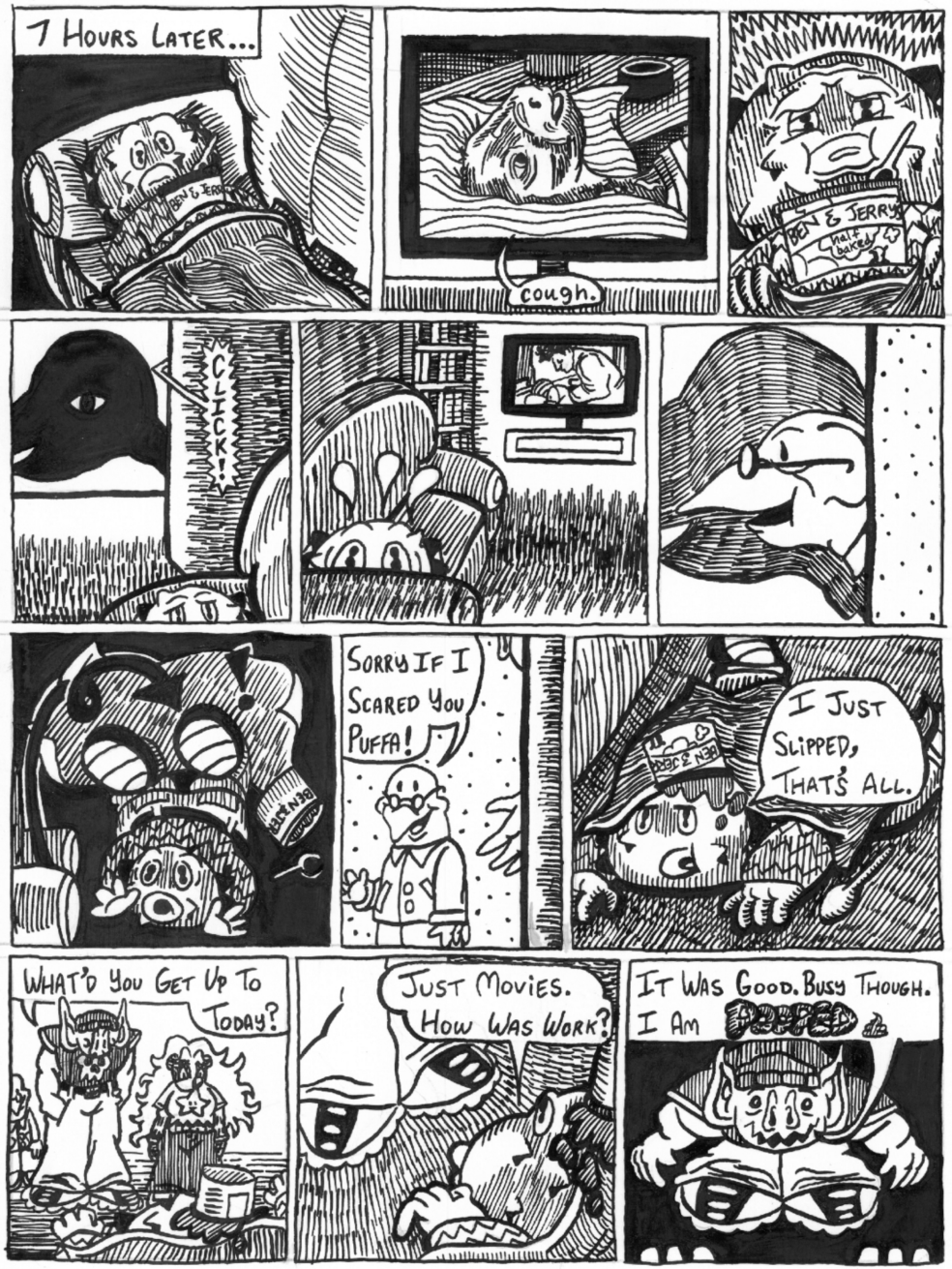

WELL I'LL BE DAMNED...
NOW DON'T BE A STRANGER! C'MERE!
PAT PAT!
CAN YOU NOT HUG ME WITH THAT?!
SHE'S NOT LOADED!
I'LL GO PULL UP THE BIKE!
NICE TO MEET YOU, PUFFA!
SEE YA!
I HEARD T! WHERE'D HE GO?
THEY'RE WAITING OUTSIDE.
THANKS, CATCH YOU LATER PUFFA!
SLAM!
GOT THE WHOLE PLACE TO MYSELF.
NICE.
WHY DIDN'T I GO WITH THEM?

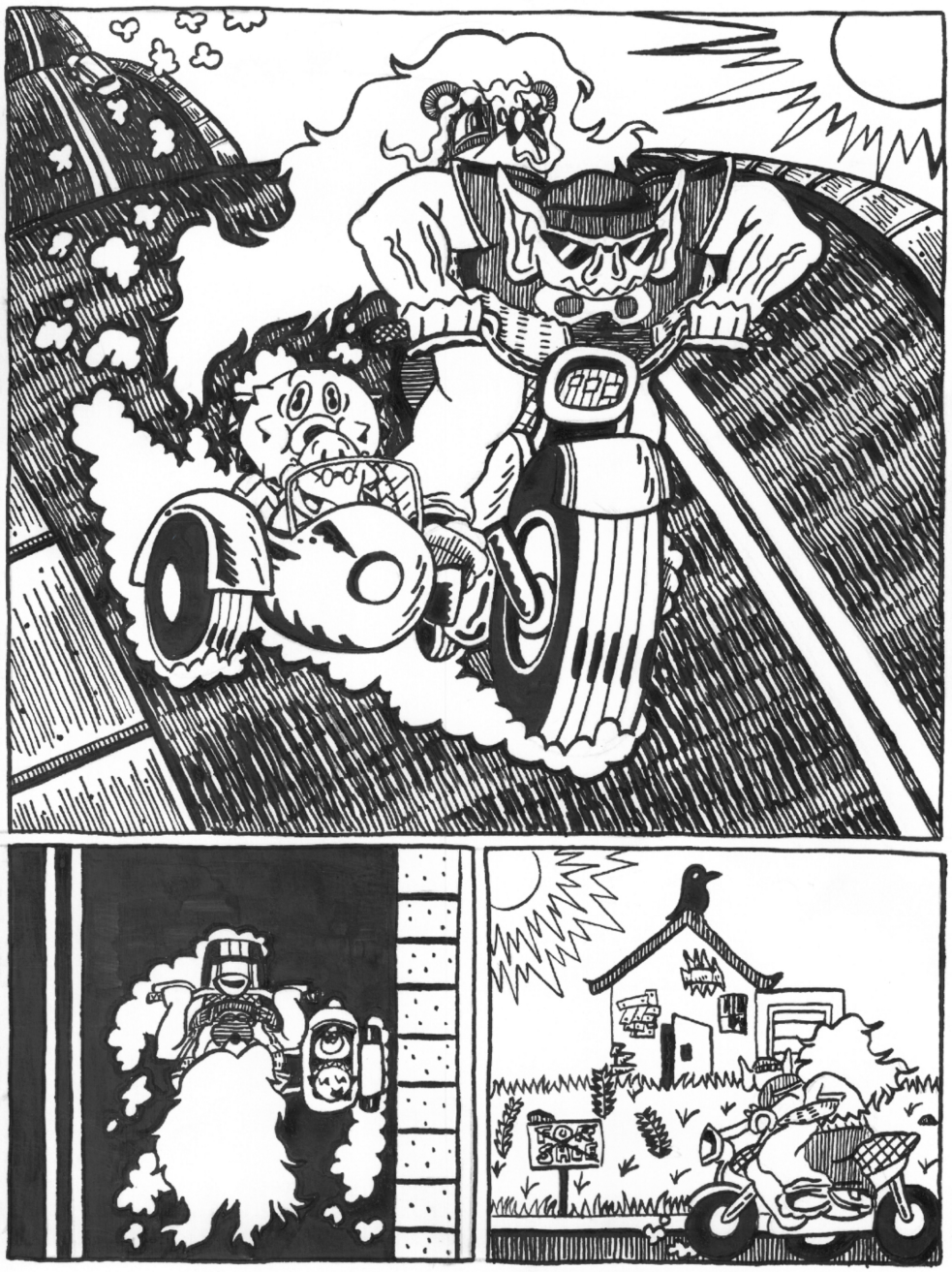
HOW WOULD I HAVE ENTERTAINED MYSELF WHILE THEY WORK-ED THE WHO-LE TIME?
HELL, WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO HERE EIT-HER.
this is not what I imagined coming back would be like.

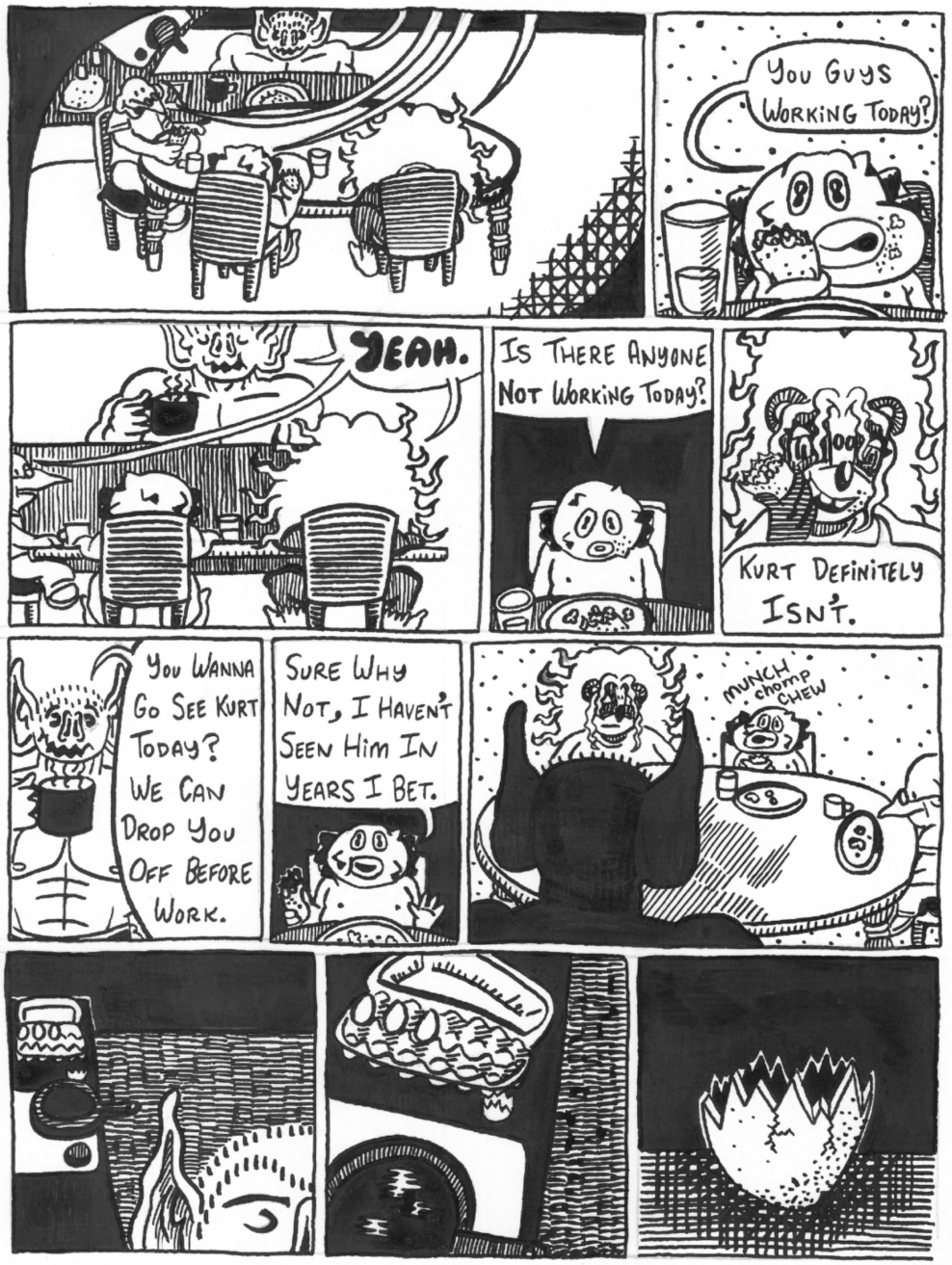

1
2
3
4
5
CLICK!
6
BANG!
7
8


B
Y
E
CREEEEAK!

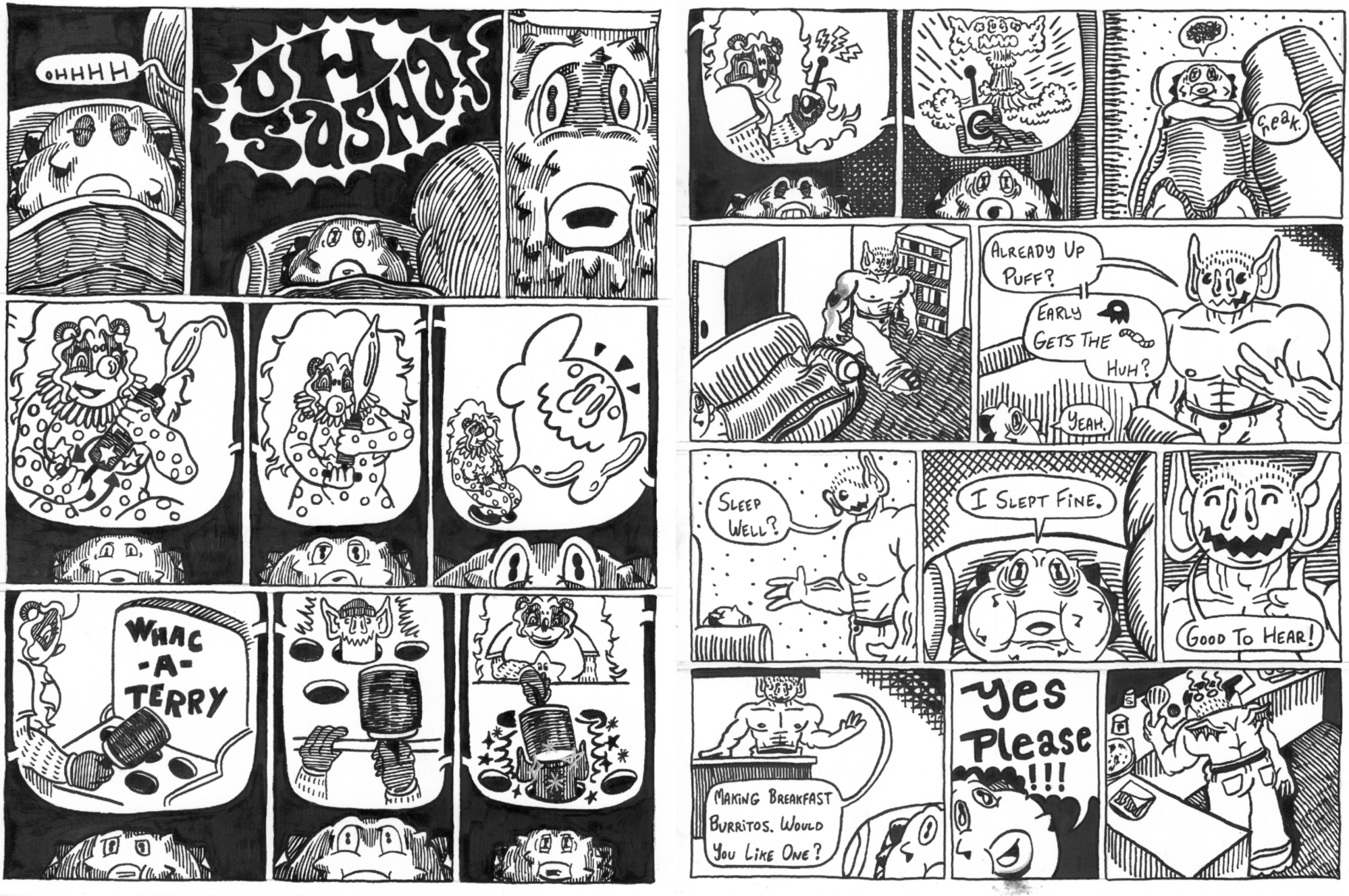

WELP! GOTTA FIND SOMETHING TO DO...
?
NO COUNTRY FOR A
GHOST DOG
BRIEF LIGHTN
THE L
VIDEODRO
KILL
PARIS, TEXAS
GHOST WORLD
RIKI-OH
HOT ROD
SUPERBAD
CAPEMAN
I'LL JUST TAKE A...
...FEW.
BONK!
I'LL START WITH THIS.
ZAP!


7 HOURS LATER...
cough.
CLICK!
SORRY IF I SCARED YOU PUFFA!
I JUST SLIPPED, THAT'S ALL.
WHAT'D YOU GET UP TO TODAY?
JUST MOVIES. HOW WAS WORK?
IT WAS GOOD. BUSY THOUGH. I AM


FOR SALE


You Guys Working Today?
YEAH.
Is There Anyone Not Working Today?
Kurt Definitely Isn't.
You Wanna Go See Kurt Today? We Can Drop You Off Before Work.
Sure Why Not, I Haven't Seen Him In Years I Bet.
munch chomp chew

So You Guys Are Too Tired To Hang Then ... OR?
Ya Sorry, We're Gonna Have To Call It A Night Puff.
Nah I Get It, Don't Worry.
If I Didn't Love You-
-I'd- Kill You For Stealing Earl's Bed.
Chill. They're The Same Couch. I'm Just Playing.
Goodnight Puffa!
Sweet Dreams Earl!
Did You Bring Ear Plugs?
no...?
Goodluck.


OHHHH
OH SASHA
WHAC -A- TERRY
Creak.
ALREADY UP PUFF?
EARLY GETS THE HUH?
YEAH.
SLEEP WELL?
I SLEPT FINE.
GOOD TO HEAR!
MAKING BREAKFAST BURRITOS. WOULD YOU LIKE ONE?
YES PLEASE !!!